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The Thin Red Line.

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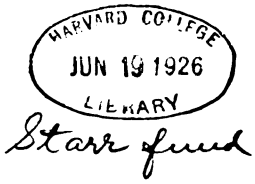

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The Thin Red Line.

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N. B.—Mr. Forbes Mitchell is an old 93rd Highlander, and we can strongly recommend his Tug-of-War Ropes. We have one of them in our Battalion.—EDITOR, *Thin Red Line.*

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders

No. 1.—Vol. I. MIAN MIR,—JANUARY 31st, 1894. Price, 2 Annas.

"THE Thin Red Line" makes its bow at the commencement of the year and on a change of station. The name is one that has been chosen as being well known to all readers of history and it recalls to us the most stirring episode in the records of the old 93rd. None now remain with us who were present on that eventful 25th October when the regiment made a name for itself that will last as long as the British Empire continues and that will be remembered when the sword shall have been turned into the ploughshare and an international board of arbitration shall determine all disputes between nations and countries. For a device on the title page we have placed above the honours of the regiment, a part of the well known picture of the "Thin Red Line" for which we owe apologies to the painter Mr. R. S. Gibb and the publishers of that well known picture. We hope, in its new name, the paper will not only recall to those of our readers now serving, the glorious deeds of their predecessors in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America and encourage them to emulate them, but will also give them a faithful record of what is going on from day to day amongst us here. It may be that we shall only have to record bloodless victories in the maidan at manœuvres or in football, polo, or other games. More fortunately we may be engaged on the frontier of this great country where there is always some expedition or other marching against the refractory tribes on our border. The time may come when we may again meet the vast armies of that Empire against whom we fought just forty years ago and with that object in view we should remember the name we bear and endeavour to worthily represent

"The Thin Red Line."

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SKIRLS

WHILST at Umballa our Sergeants showed much more life and spirit than was their wont on the hills.

* * * * *

On the 18th ultimo they had a very enjoyable day's cricket, their adversaries and guests being the Sergeants of the 18th Hussars. Our team, owing to want of practice and to several of the best players being absent, was severely handicapped and suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of their more skilful opponents. After the fatigues of the day a very jovial evening was spent in the Sergeants' Mess.

* * * * *

On Saturday, the 23rd ultimo, a return match was played on the ground of the Umballa Cricket Club. Our Sergeants, having got together a stronger team than on the previous occasion, tried to turn the tables on their opponents but again had to suffer defeat. The Hussars going in first ran up a total of 177, the bowlers being a little bit "off"; to this we could only reply with 52 and 44 for 8 wickets, thus losing on the first innings by 125 runs. An excellent luncheon and tea was served on the ground, and a number of the fair sex graced the field with their presence.

* * * *

The Royal Welsh Fusiliers, passing through Umballa on their way from Nowshera to Jhansi stopped a couple of days in the rest camp, and during their stay a football match with our team was to have been played, but owing to some mistake in delivering the challenge the Gordon Highlanders got the preference. The match was an easy win for the Gordons, who scored six goals to the Welshmen's one.

* * * * *

On Christmas Day "C" Company's Rifle Club held a shooting match on the 18th Hussars' Range. Most of the company competed, there being several prizes for all classes of shots, some very good shooting was witnessed and altogether there was a very enjoyable day's sport. Captain Mackenzie's company should certainly stand a good chance for the "shield" next musketry season if this practice continues.

* * * * *

On Boxing Day a shooting match between our Sergeants and the Sergeants of the Gordon Highlanders was to have taken place, but owing to the 75th's delay in accepting the challenge no range could be procured for the firing and the match consequently fell through.

* * * * *

The time-expired details for the second trooper, consisting of Sergeant R. Dickson and 41 men, left camp at noon on Wednesday, the 27th ultimo, *en route* for Karachi, at which port they embarked on board H.M. Troopship "Serapis" for home. We wish them every success on their return to civil life. Besides the above, 9 invalids proceeded home by the same trooper.

* * * * *

Before leaving the Battalion, Sergeant Dickson was presented with a silver mounted cigar and cigarette holder, a cigar case and a silver match box, by the Non-Commissioned Officers of "A" Company.

* * * * *

"E" Company arrived from Dagshai on the evening of the 28th December, but did not reach camp until after dark, the pipes and drums playing them in from the Railway Station. "F" Company came from Kalka by the mid-night train on the same day but remained in the rest camp until the following morning.

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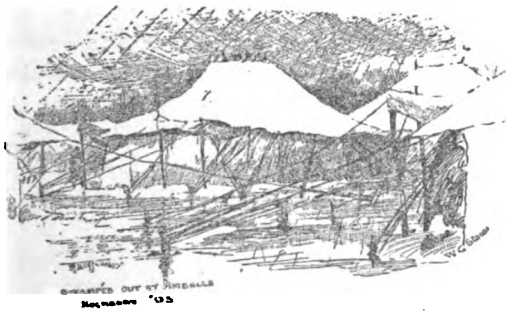
The marching of the Detachment from Dagshai to Kalka was capital, every man being bent upon reducing the regimental time for the same distance, but, unfortunately, their strenuous efforts were not crowned with success, for although the actual marching time was only 4 hours, 50 minutes, the frequent halts indulged in on the road spun out the actual time to 6 hours, 20 minutes.

* * * * *



On the night of Hogmanay, although it rained rather heavily, the time-honoured custom of ushering in the New Year was observed by the troops in camp, the band, assisted by the pipes and drums, playing the Old Year out and the New Year in.

* * * * *

On the 1st instant (Proclamation Day), the usual ceremonial parade was held on the *maidan* all the troops in the garrison including the Imperial Service Infantry being present. The Artillery fired a salute of 31 guns, and the Infantry a *feu-de-joie*, after which three cheers were given for Her Brittanic Majesty. A march-past concluded the proceedings.

* * * * *

On Wednesday, the 3rd instant, our regimental football team paid a visit to the Derbyshire Lines, and succeeded in scoring an easy victory.

* * * * *

Six hundred men of the battalion left camp on Sunday, the 7th instant, for the Sirhind District Manœuvres. They formed part of a column under Lieutenant-Colonel Gildea, Gordon Highlanders, for the defence of Umballa against an enemy supposed to be advancing from Delhi and Meerut. The manœuvres only last four days, all the troops engaged returning to their respective quarters on the Wednesday following.

* * * * *

On the 12th and 13th instants the brigade was exercised in field-firing over the sand-hills east of Umballa.

* * * * *

A draft of over 300 men for the 1st Battalion (Prince Albert's) Somerset Light Infantry, our old comrades of the 3rd Brigade at Aldershot, arrived in camp on the 13th instant.

* * * * *

On the eve of the departure of the Highland Brigade from Umballa, and under the distinguished patronage of Brigadier-General G. T. Pretyman, a Grand Military Torchlight Tattoo was most successfully carried out by the combined bands, pipes, and drums of the garrison in the General's compound. There was a large crowd of spectators, which was evidently well pleased with the music discoursed. General Pretyman availed himself of this opportunity of bidding good-bye to the officers of the Highland Brigade. The pieces rendered by the massed bands (comprising 160 performers), were—

"A German Military Tattoo,"
"The Lost Chord,
"Episodes in a Soldier's Life."

The last selection was most appreciated, more especially the battle music, in which realistic effects were secured by a party of men under Sergeant Jackson firing blank and bombs specially prepared for the occasion by the 32nd Pioneers. The massed pipers, drummers, and

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fifers most efficiently co-operated with the bands in bringing about an enjoyable evening.

* * * * *

By the death of Sir Archibald Orr-Ewing, Captain William Orr-Ewing, of the 3rd Battalion, succeeds to the baronetcy.

* * * * *

Captain W. A. A. McBean vacates the adjutancy of the 1st (Renfrew) V. B. A. and S. Highlanders, on retirement.

* * * * *

Captain G. L. Walker's period of service as Adjutant of the 3rd Volunteer Battalion expires on the 8th of March.

* * * * *

We have all suffered more or less from the depredations of white ants during our camp life; but, according to the *Morning Post*, a new and terrible species has been discovered at Mandalay, where an army of these formidable pests made a "combined, concentrated and simultaneous" attack upon the Government treasury, and succeeded in converting some Rs. 6,000 into an equal number of copper coins of the realm.

* * * * *

We await with interest the discovery by some scientist of an *insect* which is capable of turning copper into silver.

* * * * *

On leaving Umballa for Mian Mir on the morning of the 16th instant, the battalion was played out by the bands of the 18th Hussars, 2nd Derbyshires, and 32nd Pioneers.

* * * * *

A late pipe-major of the Stirling Militia in the person of John Macdonald died on the 23rd November at Tiree, in the Western Hebrides. He enlisted in the 15th Foot early in the '40's, but soon afterwards transferred to the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders, and at once became one of the pipers. In 1852 he became a pupil of Mackenzie, the Marquis of Breadalbane's chief piper. He proceeded with his regiment to the Crimea, and was made pipe-major shortly after the fall of Sevastopol where he carried off the first prize in a competition open to the Highland Brigade. Coming to India with his regiment in 1857 he was present at several engagements during the Mutiny. Returning home he, in 1865, became pipe-major of the Stirling Militia, which appointment he held for many years.

* * * * *

Captain Wilson has at last been promoted to his Majority. Unfortunately he is under orders to join the 1st Battalion at Edinburgh; this means a great loss to the Regimental Dramatic Club which has been brought to its present pitch of excellence by his judicious management. It will be a long time before our Thespians find another officer to spend so much of his spare time for their benefit and he will be greatly missed both before and behind the scenes.

* * * * *

Brigadier-General G. T. Pretyman issued the following highly gratifying district order in reference to the battalion on the day of its leaving the Sirhind district. "In bidding farewell to the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders now leaving the district the Brigadier-General Commanding desires to thank all ranks for the manner in which discipline has been maintained in the battalion and to accord his appreciation of the smart and soldier-like way in which its military duties have been performed during its stay under his command.

Brigadier-General Pretyman will always take a deep interest in the future career of this distinguished battalion."

———— :o: ————

There was a young girl of Jullundur,
From her lover would not part asunder,
As at home she'd not tarry,
She eloped in a gharry,
Her father now looks black as thunder.

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Rejoining Head-Quarters.

—o—

OUR detachment at Dagshai is now no more, as on the 27th ultimo, at 8-15 A.M., under the command of Captain A. Wilson, "F" and "E" Companies and all convalescents left Dagshai and started on the march to Kalka.

Captain Wilson set a good steady pace, and the men following him, succeeded in covering the first 11½ miles in 2 hours and 45 minutes, when a halt was made, and the inner man refreshed with some curious compound of "Dundee Jack's," called out of courtesy "Tea," however it was hot and sweet and answered its purpose well, namely, clearing some of the mud out of the men's throats and mouths.

After almost an hour's halt we proceeded (it would not be strictly truthful to say merrily, for the way was long and our feet blistered) on our way, and after two more halts succeeded in making Kalka rest camp at 2-35 P.M., having taken 4 hours 50 minutes actual marching time to cover the 19¾ miles.

Oh! that Kalka road with its innumerable turnings, "Come on Bill, it's just round the corner," "Stick it Mac we are just there," &c., &c., but that "corner's" name was legion, and "there" seemed a most delusive goal.

When we arrived at the rest camp we pitched our tents und stretched our weary forms upon the turf.

As one can easily imagine, after so long and dusty a march, we were eagerly anticipating a good draught of Commissariat beer, but the Sergeant in charge of the godown seemed to have great reluctance in parting with it, and it was not without some trouble that he could be persuaded to issue a pint to those fortunate enough to possess the small but all sufficient sum of two annas; possibly the fact that the Sergeant was an I. O. G. T. man had something to do with the matter.

Personally speaking, I well remember how I scoured the camp for the required sum, and when I succeed to the family estates I shall certainly reserve a corner of my will for the Sergeant who so nobly came to my rescue and furnished the wherewithal for the quenching of a thirst that was well nigh consuming me.

Next day "E" Company left the rest camp at 3 P.M., the remainder followed by the 9-30 train, rested for the night at Umballa rest camp, and joined head-quarters the following morning at 10 A.M.

TRAMP.

There was a young man of Dagshai,
Who, his skill at hill-climbing did trai;
But he fell down the khud
With a sickening thud;
Now, he's gone to the sweet bai and bai.

Two of the "Balaclava" draft have distinguished themselves as good but not avaricious sportsmen. They took out one of the company guns and hired a coolie to carry the game. The first bird bagged was one of the hawks so common in this country. "Achcha," said the boy as he picked it up, and when another fell to the unerring eye of the sportsman, the word "achcha" was repeated; then a carrion crow fell to swell the bag, "Teek" said the boy, as he stooped for the bird. "Ah, well," said sportsman No. 1, resting on his gun, "I vote we go back, two "achchas" and one "teek" are not so bad for the first day's sport.

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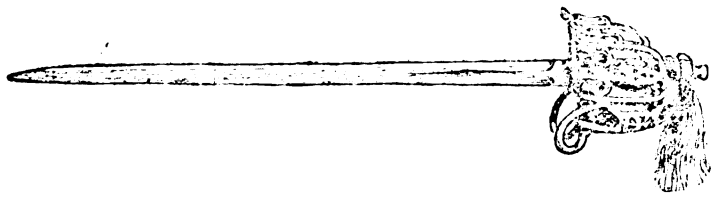
"Balaclava Day" in Glasgow.

ALTHOUGH it is now three months since the celebration of the above event, we venture to reprint the following account from "Forage Cap's" notes in the *Glasgow Evening News* of Monday, the 30th October, as it would be impossible to find a more appropriate article for the first number of our regimental paper under its new title of "The Thin Red Line."

"Balaclava Day," which is the pride of the old 93rd Highlanders, was celebrated in the Trades' Hall on Friday night in fitting fashion, with a dinner and a dance. The regimental association of the 93rd is not only in a healthy condition, but continues to do good work. The committee, in their report, acknowledge their indebtedness to civilian friends who had assisted them to find employment for members and others, and they wish all success to other associations which have the same objects in view. Colonel Nightingale, who seems to be the right-hand man of the old 93rd, presided at the meeting; and he was supported by Lieutenant McRae, the Depôt, Paisley, who usually contrives to be present at the annual gathering. Dr. Cameron was also on the platform. Sergeant-Major Smith, who called the roll, made a feeling reference to the late Captain Crockett, killed at Chicago, and read apologies for absence from many officers, who though unable to be present, have a warm interest in the affairs of the association. These included—General Sir John Ewart, Colonel McPherson of Cluny, Captain Campbell of Kilberry, Colonel Blackett, Lieut.-Colonel Hannay, Major Fullerton, Captain Middleton, Capt. Ewart, 79th Highlanders, now on staff, and many others.

The gallant Chairman fetched the enthusiasm of his hearers when, after retailing his experiences as a youngster in the Crimea, he declared that it was the spirit of comradeship which had always existed between the officers and men of the 93rd which had brought honor and glory to the old corps. The men in India, who are going to Mian Mir if they are not already there, will learn with pride that the toasts of "The Old Corps," and "Officers, Past and Present" were faithfully given, and, rapturously received. Color-Sergeant Simpson, in proposing the latter toast, was exceedingly able and pointed. Lieutenant McRae, who made a short speech, pointed out the fact that although something had been done in the way of giving situations in the Post Office to soldiers in London, very little had yet been accomplished in that direction in the West of Scotland. Sergeant-Major Gardner, 3rd Renfrew Rifles, responded for "Kindred Associations and Guests." Before leaving, and according to his usual custom, Colonel Nightingale went round the Hall, and shook hands with the veterans, the numerous medals on their breasts telling the story of hardships endured and battles won. Several songs were sung, and during the evening Lieutenant McRae read a telegram of good wishes from Aberdeen, where a branch of the 93rd association was celebrating Balaclava. Mrs. J. Brownlie, Paisley Road, catered for the occasion, and at the dance which followed Mr. Alexander Finnie officiated as master of ceremonies.

The roll-call in the Trades' Hall, on Friday night, rather opened my eyes. There they were, sturdy old men full of life; and as they announced there regimental number and gave the year in which they joined, one could not help wondering. '54, '53, and down to '50, I thought was pretty good or for that part of it pretty old; but when I heard '47, '46, and down to 19th June, '44, answered, it made one pause. The man who joined in '44 (I think his name is Sanderson) is just as solid-looking a specimen of the sturdy old soldier as I ever saw.



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Proclamation Day.

—o—

WHEN morning broke the weather was threatening, but ere the hour appointed for parade, the sun emerged from his hiding place, the clouds rolled away, and the proverbial "Queen's weather" was assured for the remainder of the day. The Infantry, consisting of the 2nd Derbyshires, 1st Gordons, 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and 32nd Pioneers, and the Imperial Service Troops of Patiala, Jind and Nabha, formed up in line, extending from one end of the cavalry parade ground to the other. "A" and "H" Batteries, Royal Horse Artillery, were on the right and left of the line respectively; the 18th Hussars forming a second line in rear. The customary salutes and *feu-de-joie* being fired, and three hearty cheers given for the Queen, the brigades were formed up for marching past. This they did first in column of double companies and on returning in quarter column. The Imperial Service Battalions marched past in both formations to the skirling of their bag-pipes. The cavalry and artillery went past at a canter and returned at the gallop. As each brigade passed the saluting base, the Battalions composing it, broke off, and marched to their various quarters.

NOTICE.

Owing to the non-arrival from Calcutta of several blocks of sketches on the line of march intended for publication in this number, we have to tender an apology, but as the remainder of our wanderings from Umballa to Mian Mir will be concluded in our next issue, we trust to be able to present them to our readers by that time.

Regimental Gazette.

THE following extracts from the *London Gazette*, dated 19th December 1893, is published for information:—

Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Captain Wilson to be Major, *vice* D. G. McG. Macdonald, deceased. Lieutenant K. B. Cameron to be Captain.

* * * * * *

Hindustani.—No. 3202 Lance-Corporal D. McDougall, "H" Company, passed in Part I. Lower Standard Hindustani.

* * * * * *

Promotion.—No. 3276 Private J. Ward, "G" Company, to be Lance-Corporal.

* * * * * *

Employment.—No. 4343 Private J. McLean, "B" Company, to be acting Piper. No. 2425 Private D. McKinnes, "F" Company, to be Pioneer.

Company Transfer.—No. 2120 Sergeant R. Murray, "G" to "B" Company; No. 2159 Sergeant W. White, "G" to "C" Company; No. 2706 Sergeant G. Willis, from "C" to "G" Company; No. 3116 Sergeant W. Weller, from "B" to "G" Company; No. 4269 Lance-Corporal F. Fressanges, "C" to "E" Company; No. 4397 Lance-Corporal E. Codey, "E" to "C" Company.

* * * * * *

Good Conduct Pay—No. 2790 Private W. Ronald, "A" Company; No. 2773 Private J. Brown, "C" Company; No. 2419 Private D. Carlyle, "E" Company; and No. 1776 Private J.

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Marshall, "G" Company, granted 2d. per diem, No. 1673 Private J. McNulty, "A" Company; No. 3350 Private T. McAllister, "A" Company; No. 3858 Private J. Copeland, "A" Company; No. 884 Private J. Balloch, "E" Company; No. 4194 Private Elliott, "F" Company; No. 4143 Private Charteris, "F" Company; No. 4377 Private R. Fingald, "G" Company; No. 4156 Private G. Jenkins, "G" Company; No. 4325 Private J. Moriarty, "G" Company; No. 4369 Private J. Dunlop, "H" Company; and No. 3730 Private P. Jackson, "H" Company, granted 1d. per diem. No. 2651 Private F. Robb, "E" Company; No. 3134 Private M. Kilpatrick, "E" Company; No. 3150 Private T. Clarke, "E" Company; and No. 3999 Private R. Gordon "G" Company, restored 1d. per diem.

SUPPLY CERTIFICATE.

No. 3854 Lance-Sergeant G. Sutherland has been granted a certificate for proficiency in Supply Duties.

BIRTH.

GREEN—At Dagshai, on the 8th instant, the wife of Sergeant J. W. Green, of a son.

Umballa Manœuvres.

—o—

HALF-PAST TWO in the afternoon of Wednesday, January 10th, 1894, and we are back again in Umballa camp, but thank goodness the column is all over.

We left Umballa on the 7th instant, just as 8-30 A.M. struck on the gong, and joined the column leaving Umballa just outside the Sudder Bazaar; Nabha's troops led, followed by the Gordons, then we came next, whilst the 32nd Pioneers brought up the rear.

The march was very fatiguing owing to the frequent halts and delays caused by having to cross two rivers (the names of which I know not) by railway bridges; however, there is an end to all things and we finally reached our camping ground at Shahabad about 2 P.M. "H" Battery, R. H. A., dashed past us at the gallop some seven miles out of Umballa, as also did a squadron of the 18th Hussars, all wearing the friendly insignia—the red *puggaree*.

The camping ground was in capital condition, and the water-supply, a most important item, both good and plentiful.

We mounted an extra guard to patrol the camp at night, owing to the "Derbies" having lost two rifles here on the night previous, but as the dress was great coats and tent pegs, it proved, what is called in soldiers' parlance, "a soft thing" for those fortunate to "quiff it;" still, owing to no unusual occurrence, the guard was not alarmed.

Next morning we were astir early, as it was almost too cold to sleep, and by 7-30 A.M. the camp was struck, baggage packed, and all in readiness to fall in, but the cavalry were earlier still, as soon after 6 A.M some of the 18th Hussars were out scouting.

Rations were not forthcoming this morning with the exception of a little tea, and at 8 A.M. most of us marched off to do battle on empty stomachs. Our order of marching was somewhat altered as the Gordons were in front, the 32nd Pioneers next, then we followed, with the troops of Nabha in rear.

We marched off in a south-east direction over a very rough road which severely tried the marching powers of the troops, several men falling out before the village of Bahim was reached, where our Artillery came into action with the enemy, and kept them engaged till we had time to deploy, and then, after advancing and lying down, then advancing again and generally fooling about for nearly an hour "cease fire" sounded. We lay down again for about half an hour, when we formed up and marched away, having in the meanwhile learnt that "we had not succeeded," but what in, few of us knew.

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By the direction in which we marched we were evidently retiring and after a long search for our camping ground, which was eventually found about 2 P. M. piled arms, and lay down, awaiting the arrival of our tents and baggage and what was more important the Commissariat, but the latter was so late in arriving on the scene that it was almost dark before dinner was served; but when it *was* served, *what a dinner!*— half a dozen potatoes, half a pound of "bully mutton," ten experimental biscuits and a pint of tea per man, ye gods! it was a feast for a king, anyhow a king could not have grambled more than we did.

After such sumptuous fare, at the close of so fatiguing a day, a visit to the canteen proved necessary to the majority of us, and after a sleeping draught, bed was the order.

Punctually at 6-30 A.M. reveille sounded, and after the usual struggle and bustle all baggage was packed and another dose of biscuits, "bully-mutton," and tea issued out to us and at 8 A.M. we continued our retrograde movement in the direction of Shahabad, where a stand was made for about an hour, but owing to the enemy pressing forward a further retreat proved necessary and the Markanda river was crossed by a bridge and the north side defended by an extended line consisting of the Pioneers, the Gordons, and "Ours," assisted by a couple of guns of the R. H. A.

The Pioneers and our left half battalion held this position, while the Gordons and our right half battalion with a couple of guns took up a position some three miles down the river to defend the ford at Dinapur, where, it was anticipated, the enemy would attempt to flank us, Shortly after this, "cease fire" put an end to hostilities and the various regiments marched off to their respective camping grounds.

Our left half battalion arrived at Morhi camp about 2 P.M., the right half not getting in till about 4 P.M. However all was not over for the day, as after a hasty meal "F" and "H" companies were ordered out for outpost duty, to guard against a surprise from the enemy, from which duty they did not return till about 7·30 P.M. needless to say, no enemy was forthcoming but the men were rewarded for their exertions as the officers commanding the two companies kindly "stood Hector" for a pint of beer per man. Next morning shortly after 8 A.M., the retreat was continued, the Gordons covering our movements and without molestation we reached a river which we forded, thereby wetting our hose-tops, and took up a very strong position on the Umballa side of it, assisted by Nabha's troops and the 32nd Pioneers, whilst two of the R. H. A. guns occupied ground below the bridge.

After waiting about half an hour the wave of battle rolled towards us, and our Artillery thundered out round after round under cover of which the Gordons dashed across the river and passing through our line formed up in rear as a support to the firing line.

Soon after this, the engagement became general.

The Pioneers were most energetic and a Sergeant of theirs was almost weeping because one of our ammunition carriers would not give him Lee-Metford blank to fire out of his Martini-Henry rifle.

After a prolonged struggle the bugle sounded "cease fire" for the last time in the Sirhind District manœuvres of eighteen-hundred and ninety-four.

Wives in India.

—o—

IT is well known that there is a great demand for wives in India.

It is better now, with the rapid passages that the many and fine ships make than formerly,

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still even now English girls in Upper India are greatly sought after and in some isolated military stations almost worshipped.

They can marry almost anybody they please —from the General of the Division, the Colonel commanding the Regiment, to the youngest newly joined love-making subaltern,—all are at their feet.

If the ladies have a good time of it, the women, of the regiment have in another sense almost a better time of it.

But poor Tommy Atkins has but a poor chance for the women naturally prefer the best-looking of the Sergeants and Warrant Officers.

As the mortality is greater amongst the men than the women, the latter have, after a few years of India, experienced widowhood; two or three, or even four, times is not unknown. They are always prepared for this contingency of becoming widows. It becomes natural to them after a time to look ahead.

No sooner is a woman left a widow than she has a rush of suitors to condole with her first, and next to offer to take the place of the late lamented.

Sometimes Mrs. Smith, the wife of Sergeant Smith, is asked by that nice-looking Sergeant Brown an embarrassing question something like this: "Life is very uncertain here, Mrs. Smith, and should anything happen to my old friend, your husband, which God forbid, still I pray you will give me a prior claim and I may take his place."

It often goes further than this, and sometimes a Mrs. Smith will have a list of several men, only waiting for the husband's death to urge their suit.

I once heard of a Sergeant who died very suddenly, and his widow, who loved him very dearly, attended his funeral and was terribly overcome.

When she had left the cemetery, Sergeant Douglas, with tears in his eyes, asked her to be his wife. "Ah! Sergeant Douglas," sobbed the poor widow, "I always liked and admired you very much, but you are a wee bit too late—I have just accepted Sergeant Macpherson *inside*," and she pointed over the cemetery wall.

Mess Stories.

———:o:———

"C" Company's Shooting Club.

—o—

THE above company held their first quarterly competition on Christmas Day. Captain Mackenzie and Lieutenants Malcolm and Campbell were present and evinced their interest in the club by giving handsome donations to the prize fund. Shooting commenced at 200 yards under very favourable conditions as regards wind and light, and some very good scores were recorded.

Football and cricket whiled away the time for those who had fired, and "pool" proved a favourite pastime with many. On the completion of the firing at the first distance, dinner was served. A strong shifting wind and clouds of dust prevented anything like good shooting at 500 yards, still the practice obtained during the past three months stood several in good stead, and some unexpected scorers came to the front. The prizes were distributed by Captain A. F. Mackenzie, the following being the chief winners:—

MARKSMEN (ONE PRIZE).

1*st*.—Private Brown.

1ST CLASS (SIX PRIZES).

1*st*.—Colour-Sergeant MacIntosh.
2*nd*.—Private Grosvenor.
3*rd*.—Private Deane.

2ND CLASS (TWELVE PRIZES).

1*st*.—Private Lawson.
2*nd*.—Private Inglis.
3*rd*.—Lance-Corporal Williamson.

3RD CLASS (SEVEN PRIZES).

1*st*.—Lance-Corporal Watson.
2*nd*.—Private Whyte.
3*rd*.—Private Bird.

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"C" Company has made marked progress in shooting this year, and the existence of a Company Shooting Club (the only one in the Battalion) of which nearly all are members, shows that they have an eye to the regimental shield next year. A challenge issued by No. 2 section (winners of the company trophy), to any other section has been accepted by No. 3. The shooting match will be for Rs. 50 aside.

———:o:———

There was a young man of Amritsar,
Applauding and shouting "Well, hit," sar,
When the ball in its flight,
Interfered with his sight,
And shattered his nose into bits, sar.

—o—

"Och, father, quick, quick, come and help Mr. Houligan, he's up to the ankles in the bog," shouted an Irish peasant girl to her father.

"Well, Mary darlint, was the answer an' sure that will do him no harm."

"Ach, but father, sure he is head downwards," said she.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—e—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

THAT the detachment would not buy tickets for their bow-wows.

That twenty men in a marquee was the nearest approach to sardines.

That now the Sirhind District Manœuvres are over, it would like to know what they were all about.

That it was to try how long "Tommy" could live without food was the general opinion.

That it would have liked to have been on baggage guard.

That the experimental biscuits had best be "put in the bag."

That it was in Mian Mir before, in '91.

That a certain corporal on the morning of leaving Umballa said "we would have two days' rest to-morrow."

That the best accompaniment for the "barrel dance" is the "scruff-polka."

That the time is "one, two, and a hop."

That the "hop" takes place when the basin is empty.

That it is never up before *reveillé*. Oh, no!

That if you want to know the time on the march ask "H" Company.

———:o:———

The Private Soldier.

—o—

WHAT a thing of beauty a soldier in undress uniform is! and he never looks so well as when he is trying to induce a new arrival from the provinces to enlist and share in the glory that sooner or later is sure to fall to the lot of Her Majesty's soldiers. What an awful contrast there is between the pair. The countryman looks ill at ease, and undoubtedly feels as he looks. His clothes are none of the best, and they hang upon him as if they were originally intended for someone built on entirely different lines. He has a slouching gait, and he does not know how to stand. His hands are in his way, and his own feet are in everybody's. Everything about him denotes indecision, if not failure. It is very difficult to imagine that this picture of the victim would have answered a few months ago for that of the tempter. What! That soldier unable to hold his chin up without stepping on himself?

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It may be difficult to digest, but it's a fact. Example and training, with perhaps a knowledge that it behoved him to improve quickly, are accountable for the change. There is no indecision noticeable in that smoothly shaven face, in the jaunty carriage of the head, in the set of the shoulders, or the rhythmical swing of the whole man as he strides along. No, if he had looked liked that before he enlisted he would never have become a soldier; he would have had too much confidence in himself. But that came to him with his kit. I would like to know how much satisfaction to the square inch he gets out of his clothes. I have long been satisfied that the pride he takes in his cap—that little round piece of cloth perched on his right ear—is altogether out of proportion to the extent of territory it covers. How often he must put it on before it assumes the proper angle. And how much time he must consume in inserting about two-thirds of his length into his trousers. If I weren't aware that baths were compulsory, and that they weren't intended by the regulations for trousers, I should say that the average mounted soldier maintained an upright position until his nether garments were built round his legs, and once there they must remain until they burst. It is easy enough to imagine how he puts himself into his jacket, because it is buttoned up the front, but how he breathes after the jacket is buttoned has always been a problem that I could only solve satisfactorily by concluding that in addition to the soldier there is a good deal of cotton wool or some other soft and pliable material inside that exceedingly brief and natty garment. It is not greatly to be wondered at that his blandishments overcome the fears and scruples of the countryman. His appearance alone is seductive to a man who has nothing in his pocket and who feels as if he were in everyone's way. Then too, he seldom, if ever, feels it necessary to confine himself to the truth in describing the joys of a soldier's life. He lays great stress upon the *fact* that a soldier has seldom anything to do except dress and walk the principal streets, attracting the admiration of his fellow men wherever he goes. It is not impossible that he says something about the admiration of the women. As he talks he slaps his off leg with a light bamboo cane with the air of a man who is absolutely bored because he has nothing to do, and he may throw out a hint of an engagement for the theatre that evening, with a little supper to follow. It isn't always that the man enlists, but in many cases the soldier's blandishments gain the day.—*A.S.C. Journal.*

———— :o:————

"Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny."

—o—

THIS book, written by Mr. Forbes Mitchell a name familiar to all our readers, and published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., is reviewed in the *Times of India* as follows.

Mr. Forbes Mitchell's "Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny" is not a new history of the mutiny, but tells as much of the story of Cawnpore, Lucknow, and the Rohilkhund and Oudh campaigns as came within the direct observation and experience of a young non-commissioned officer in the Ninety-third Highlanders.

The regiment, on its return from the Crimea, was part of the force detailed for the expedition to China under Lord Elgin, (the father of the Viceroy elect), and whose destination was changed to Calcutta on receipt of news at the Cape of the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny. Some of the hardest fighting of that eventful time fell upon this splendid regiment, and Mr. Forbes Mitchell, who has excellent descriptive and narrative powers, is able to give a moving story of some of the most thrilling episodes in the mutiny. The Ninety-third arrived in Cawnpore on the 27th October 1857, and formed part of the force under Sir Colin Campbell, which undertook the second relief of the Lucknow Residency, and afterwards accompanied him on his return to Cawnpore. Later on it went through the compaigns of Rohilkhund, co-operating with the Forty-seventh, and Seventy-nineth in the re-capture of Bareilly, and in the operations in

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Oudh which filled up the closing months of 1858.

Mr. Forbes Mitchell has an enthusiastic affection for his old regiment, and tells us that in his time it was no ordinary regiment, but the glory has gone from it, with the change of its name; what was once the Ninety-third is now known as the Second Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

If the old Ninety-third was "no ordinary regiment," there were no ordinary men in it. There were men in it with some of the sturdiest characteristics of Cromwell's Ironsides, men who went into action with the Psalms on their lips and faith in their Maker in their hearts. The "Quaker Wallace," whom Mr. Forbes Mitchell describes, is a fine specimen of the Cromwellian hero; this man who plunged into the fight at the Secunderabagh, "quoting a verse at every shot fired from his rifle and at each thrust given by his bayonet," was said on that occasion to have killed twenty men single-handed, notwithstanding that he broke Sir Colin Campbell's injunction that the attack was to be made in threes, the centre man of the group making the attack, while the other two came to his assistance right and left.

Sir Colin Campbell's affection for the regiment was unbounded, they had fought under him in the Crimea, and in riding down the line before Lucknow he hailed them with "you are my own lads! I rely on you to do the work"; and when Sir Hope Grant, before the march on Bitboor, said that it would be a wild goose chase as the infantry could never keep up with the cavalry, he turned round and somewhat warmly said! "I tell you, you are wrong, you don't know these men, these Highlanders will march your cavalry blind"! It was in the fitness of things that when the colonelcy of the regiment became vacant a few months later, it should be given to one whose relations with it were of such enthusiastic affection.

The book abounds with episodes, some of them of a very stirring nature. One hair breadth escape is recounted by Mr. Forbes Mitchell with great dramatic power. The Shah Nujeef had been taken after a hotly contested fight, and on the same night a party of the Ninety-third were posted round the tomb. Young Forbes Mitchell had done his turn of patrol duty and as the night was bitterly cold, and his great-coat had been cut through as it was slung over his shoulder during the fight at the Secunderabagh, it occurred to him that some warm covering might have been left behind by the enemy in the great mausoleum.

Taking a small "buttee" in his hand he entered the vault, when, in approaching the centre of it, his progress was suddenly arrested by a big black heap which felt to his feet as though he were walking upon loose sand. Lowering his lamp to see what it was, he discovered that he was standing up to his ankles in loose gunpowder, that about 40 cwt of it lay before him in a mass, and that a little further off were twenty to thirty barrels of powder, and over 100 shells loaded and with the fuses fixed. Just then the wick of the lamp dropped, threatening to shed its smouldering red tip into the mass of powder, and he saved himself only by allowing the flame to fall upon his hand, and rushing for the door. He burnt his hand badly, but he saved his life and the lives of his comrades, for the gunpowder was scarcely removed when the enemy, with a lively recollection of what they had left behind, turned their batteries upon the door of the tomb, believing that the powder was still there, and that they might manage to blow up the British force. Mr. Forbes Mitchell's readers may think that some of his stories would have been incredible if any one but he had told them. There is one, for instance, of two men playing cards just before the assault on the Begum's palace, and one of them having four teeth knocked out by a bullet, and thinking that it was a blow on the mouth from his companion, until he spat out the bullet and learnt the cause of his pain.

Some more serious adventures than this, however, are told of in connection with the

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desperate conflict which ended with the capture of the Begum's kothi. Mr. Forbes Mitchell was in that daring exploit, the latter stage of which consisted of a series of desperate encounters in isolated rooms of the palace, in which the defenders were hidden ready to fire their last cartridge. In breaking in the door of one room the Lieutenant in command of the party was shot dead at his side.

He then posted his party at either side of the door, and sent to Colonel Napier, afterwards Lord Napier of Magdala, for some bags of gunpowder with slow matches fixed to light and pitch into the room. Instead of finding Colonel Napier, the messenger found the redoubtable Hodson of Hodson's Horse, who had volunteered with the storming party; and here we may quote Mr. Forbes Mitchell's own words, as those of an eye-witness of the last scene in Hodson's stormy career :—"Hodson did not wait for the powder bags, but after showing the men where to go for them came running up himself, sabre in hand, 'Where are the rebels?' he said; "I pointed to the door of the room, and Hodson, shouting 'come on' was about to rush in; I implored him not to do so, saying: "it's certain death, wait for the powder, I've sent men for the powder bags." Hodson made a step forward, I put out my hand to seize him by the shoulder to pull him out of the line of the doorway, when he fell back shot through the chest. He gasped out a few words either : "Oh! my mother," or "Oh! my wife"—I cannot now remember rightly —and was immediately choked with blood."

We have quoted this, because the calumny has gone abroad that Hodson, who was the bravest of the brave, was looting when he was killed.

It is clear that he fell a victim to his own rashness, and Mr. Forbes Mitchell who was in a better position to give evidence on the point absolutely denies that he was looting and he rightly characterises the charge as "a cruel slander on one of the bravest of Englishmen."

———:o:———

A private of "ours" at Lalru
Had little or nothing to du,
So he went and got tight
Then started to fight,
Now, of "days" he's doing a fu.

—o—

A native circus proprietor at Umballa, lately informed the public that "tickets would be raised higher or lower as opportunes."

———:o:———

Umballa to Mian Mir.

—o—

"MAN proposes but God disposes," the truth of this saying was never more forcibly brought home to us than during this march; we expected to have quite a lengthy account of our doings or mis-doings to bore our readers with; but instead of bright sunny weather, since reaching Bara, from which station this copy is forwarded to the publishers, we have had nothing but rain, rain, rain. On the morning of Tuesday, January 16th, we bade farewell to Umballa, reveille sounded at 6 A.M.; and by 8 o'clock all the transport was on the road, though not without some trouble, for many of the camels were gifted with a great amount of playfulness and would persist in trying to give the nearest approach they could to the "first four steps."

At 9 o'clock we fell in, and, accompanied by the bands of the 18th Hussars, 2nd Derbyshire and 32nd Pioneers, marched off; about two miles out of Umballa our friends bade us good-bye playing as a final send off "Auld Lang Syne." We marched steadily on till the 6th milestone from Umballa was reached where we halted for about half an hour, then after the troops had speculated on oranges and cakes, we proceded on our road which was in good condition for marching and well shaded by trees, and reached our first camping ground at Mogul-ki-Serai about 1-30 P.M. On our road we passed some souvenirs of the Gordons who had left Umballa a day in advance of us, *viz.*, a dead bullock and camel

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On our arriving in camp we found that the baggage guard had pitched our tents and unloaded the baggage, also that we had for companions two field batteries of the R. A., the 46th and 65th, who during the afternoon indulged in an inter-battery football match and left us the following morning.

After dinner we had to turn out to dress tent pegs, evidently a most important proceeding, then our equipment had to be "sketched" for parade next morning. The tents we used were the E. P. ones, 16 men to a tent so we were most comfortable.

"Lights out" sounded at 10-15, and a few minutes later most of us were in the land of nod. Next day we rested, paraded at 11 A.M. for inspection, and after dinner a lot of us went for a bathe in about 18 inches of water and 12 inches of mud, whilst some of our sportsmen went out with their guns, bringing back pigeons and doves chiefly, both of which were most plentiful here. The surrounding country appeared to be well cultivated while water was plentiful.

Next morning the order of the programme was reveille at 6-30 A.M., pile arms and accoutrements, pack sulletahs, tents, &c., then hunt for the nappey, after which wash, breakfast and wait for the fall in, which sounded at 9 A.M., this was the order book time, but as the baggage was generally away long before the prescribed hour the fall in usually took place a quarter of an hour earlier. This programme will be followed throughout the march. The morning was very dull but the road was good, though nothing very noticeable was passed till we reached Rajpura junction, about six miles on our way, where there were two old fastioned fortified looking places on either side of the station called Serais; about half a mile further on we halted, then marched on till we reached the village of Ughana where our camp was pitched. Here again it was evident that the baggage guard had not been idle as everything was in readiness for us, with the exception of course of the hospital tent or "haven of rest" as we have heard it appropriately termed.

After dinner some of the ever-venturesome possessors of guns sallied forth, one of whom lost his way and did not return till about 4 A.M., "weary and worn and sad," to say nothing of hungry. It was at this camp that a non-commissioned officer was safely delivered of the following Irishism:—"Well, men, as you are all in and awake, I will tell you to-morrow the orders for to-day." Next morning the usual struggle with the camels took place, and by 9 o'clock we were once more on the road. The country appeared to open out more here; after covering a trifle over six miles we halted for about 40 minutes. This day a new departure had been taken, as Corporal Scott of coffee shop fame had erected a stall here for the sale of cakes, mineral waters, &c., which was well patronised by the troops, some enterprising natives also utilising our halt for the purpose of exhibiting the antics of some tame monkeys and a goat, but did not reap a very large harvest of pice, the nature of the reward awarded by Tommy Atkins consisting chiefly of orange peel.

We continued our march, passed the villages of Julbereed, Madhopur, and about 33¼ miles from Umballa, reached Bara, where our camping ground was, at 12-45 A.M. After dinner we had a sharp shower of rain which caused us to turn out with our bayonets to dig trenches, tent-pegs had to be driven in more securely, and ropes slackened. All villages and towns were put out of bounds, so a special pass was required by those desirous of visiting Sirhind which lay about two miles north of our camp. During the night rain fell in considerable quantities, and next morning "Stand fast till further orders" was the order issued.

(*To be continued*)

—o—

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We acknowledge with many thanks, the receipt of the following:—

The Soldier.
The Vedette (21st Hussars).
The Dragon, (The Buffs).

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The Light Bob Gazette (13th Somerset Light Infantry).
Ours (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
The Sprig of Shillelagh (27th Inniskillings).
The 5 and 9 " Lillywhites Gazette " (2nd E. Lancaster Regiment).
I'm Ninety-five (95th Derby. Regiment).
The Nines, (99th Wilts Regiment).
The Maple Leaf (100th Leinster Regiment).
The Bengal Tiger (104th Munster Fusiliers).

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—o—

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 2.—Vol. I. MIAN MIR,—FEBRUARY 28th, 1894. Price, 2 Annas.

From Photo by Law Bros., Amballa.

The Battalion Marching Past on Proclamation Day.

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SKIRLS

OWING to the rain the battalion was delayed for three days at Bara, but the weather clearing up on the 23rd ultimo, the march was resumed.

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About mid-way between Bara and Khuna-ki-Serai, a party of the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers was passed, with which was Lieutenant Somervell, who received his Commission from this battalion in the Curragh.

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At Khuna-ki-Serai, the battalion was encamped beside the 17th Bengal Cavalry, who were marching to Umballa in relief of the 10th Bengal Lancers. They were a splendid body of men, the regiment being chiefly composed of Peshawaris, Afridis, Hazaris, and Punjabi Muhammadans. At 9 P.M. they gave an exhibition of dancing as practised in their villages. By special request, Sergeant Piper Ferguson and Pipers McLean, Lynch and Anderson danced a Highland Reel, after which the latter gave the Sword Dance and Highland Fling, Piper Mackay supplying the music.

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The 17th Cavalry's "fall-in" was sounded by four mounted pipers and a tom-tom player who was also on horseback.

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Our band and pipes played them a few miles on their road on the morning of leaving Khuna-ki-Serai. In thanking our band and speaking for his men their Commanding Officer said, that should they ever have the good fortune to go into active service it was his regiment's wish that the Ninety-third would be there to support them.

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Two jackals and one monkey are all that now remain of the Zoological Garden at Ludhiana, the *locale* of the garden having been removed to Lahore.

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At Phillour, on the 26th ultimo, "A" Company played the Phillour Cricket Club, but were beaten by 60 runs.

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On arrival at Jullundur, on Sunday, the 28th ultimo, the sergeants of the battalion were invited to dinner by their brother Non-Commissioned Officers of the East Kent Regiment, who had a marquee pitched on the encamping ground, where they dispensed hospitality with a liberal hand. This little attention was most acceptable and the sergeants of "The Buffs" may be sure that it will long be remembered by those of the Ninety-third.

* * * * *

Apropos of "The Private Soldier," a correspondent writes—

"It is a curious fact that when a man presents himself for enlistment, he is usually depicted to us as a most abject specimen of manhood, clad in rags, and utterly guiltless of a knowledge of the ordinary rules of grammar. This may doubtless, account for the prejudice entertained against the private soldier by so many people; but there are, again, a large number who look upon him as the incarnation of all that is bad, and who are under the impression that the army is chiefly composed of ne'er-do-wells, who adopt the profession of arms more from necessity than

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choice. It would be difficult to disabuse the minds of such individuals, and convince them that there are both "good men and true" to be found in the ranks, men who became soldiers for the love of soldiering, men who desired to see the world, and men who, out of employment at the time, would rather enlist than be dependent on their parents for their means of subsistence."

* * * * *

A scratch team of the battalion played "A" Company of "The Buffs" at Rugby, the result being a victory for the former, by 2 goals (1 dropped) and 5 tries to *nil*. Total 24 points.

Team—*Back*, Hudson; *Three-quarter backs*, Corporal Miller, Johnson and Kay; *Half-backs*, Singleton, Mahoney; *Forwards*, Glossop, Grinham, Adcock, Brindley, Brown, Ewing, Adams, Bull, and McCarthy.

* * * * *

At the Lahore District Assault-at-Arms held on the 30th and 31st ultimo, the regimental team (12 men) coached by Corporal Thomas Gillespie won the tug-of-war open to the British troops stationed in the district, and a team of six signallers under Sergeant William Smith were also successful in getting first place.

* * * * *

As these were the only two events for which our men entered, the result must be considered most gratifying, especially as the battalion was on the march at the time. The teams were hurridly chosen late in the evening of the 29th ultimo and left Jullundur by the midnight train on that date.

* * * * *

Our tug-of-war team which was a good one though not representative, consisted of the following twelve: 2nd Lieutenant Maclean, Sergeants Middleby and MacCulloch, Corporal Fletcher, Lance-Corporal Gray, and Privates McAllister, Logie, Goldie, Brydone, McKinnes, Paterson and McKellar. The team originally only consisted of ten men, but the pull being a twelve-a-side one—two of our Mian Mir detachment—Lance-Corporal Gray and Private Goldie were taken in to complete the number required.

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Four of the usual team: Lance-Corporal Reid and Privates Rodgers, Emerson and Walker were unfortunately unavoidably absent.

* * * * *

The detachment of our men at Mian Mir, which was chiefly composed of convalescents from Umballa Hospital who had been sent on by train, had a team in for the tug-of-war, but eventually scratched.

* * * * *

Sergeant Smith had the following signallers with him at the Tournament: Lance-Corporal Rastal and Privates Russell, Johnston, McLauchlan, Chapman and Henderson. Six teams competed, the Seaforth Highlanders securing second place, the Border Regiment being third, first team Kings Own Scottish Borderers, the East Kent Regiment, and the second team of the Borderers following in the order named.

* * * * *

At Kartarpur resides the "Ghirru" or head priest of the Sikh race, he is a very young man or rather boy of twelve, though he looks much older, and is fifth in descent from Naneck, the founder of the Sikh religion. The word "Ghirru" means teacher, and there are several at Kartarpur; visitors frequently imagine that they have seen the chief "Ghirru," but he can only be seen with much difficulty, and after purification in the shape of holy sweetmeats has been obtained. At Kartarpur are also the "Panch Grunth" or five sacred books of the Sikhs.

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The sergeants of our 1st battalion celebrated the centenary of their regiment on the 5th ultimo by holding a ball at Edinburgh at which nearly 500 guests were present. Colonel Hannay and most of the officers of the 91st were present; whilst the 3rd Battalion at Stirling, the 4th Battalion at Paisley, the Highland Light Infantry and 13th Hussars and most of the Local Volunteer Corps were represented.

* * * * *

The fortress at Amritsar—Fort Govindgurh—is garrisoned by a party of the Royal Scots Fusiliers who have two companies on detachment about two miles from the Fort, the headquarters being at Sialkot; there are also some Artillery and some of the 20th Punjab Infantry in the Fort, the former taking charge of the ordnance and the latter finding sentries for the inside posts.

* * * * *

The Golden Temple at Amritsar, the St. Peter's of the Sikhs, is a very handsome building; the city being to them as another Rome.

* * * * *

The sergeants of the King's Own Scottish Borderers had an excellent "tiffin" prepared in the Sergeants' Mess upon our arrival here on the 7th instant; coming as it did after the march it was done full justice to, and was greatly appreciated by our sergeants.

* * * * *

The day after getting into our new stations the Twenty-fifth commenced their march to Rawalpindi, our band, pipes and drums accompanying them on their road for three or four miles.

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The drums and pipes of the 74th Highland Light Infantry played our football team from the camp to the Railway Station on the day of their leaving Lucknow.

* * * * *

The honor of finding the first garrison for Fort Lahore from this battalion has fallen to the lot of "A" Company, who furnished 2 sergeants, 6 corporals, 5 lance-corporals, 1 drummer and 68 privates for that purpose. The detachment will remain for about six weeks, when a party of similar strength from some other company, will be detailed for duty at the Fort.

* * * * *

On the 9th instant the battalion paraded for the first time since their arrival here, and after inspecting the ranks Colonel P. D. Trotter addressed the men as follows:—"I am very well satisfied with the clean appearance of the white jackets and accoutrements, which reflects great credit on the men, especially after just coming off the line of march. Now I hope you will keep up the reputation this battalion has always borne for cleanliness both in your dress and your barrack rooms. Avoid excessive drinking, and excesses of all sorts, and there is no reason why you all should not enjoy good health in this station."

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"Wawkphar" is the latest addition to the soldiers' slang vocabulary. Like "scoff," "seran," "fung," "the pound" and "roti" it means bread.

* * * * *

During the summer months the head-quarters consisting in all probability of "A," "B," "C" and "D" companies will proceed to Dalhousie, the left half battalion remaining on the plains for duty.

* * * * *

"Punch," Major Wilson's old bulldog died lately at Dagshai, falling down the khud and breaking its back when chasing a pariah dog. "Punch" who originally belonged to Major Wilson—though he was for some time in the possession of Captain Collins — saw service with the first battalion in Zululand in '79 and went with it to Ceylon, where he won a

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race and was mentioned in the Island papers as "an old friend at the club." He went to Hong Kong and left there when the 91st sailed on board the *Orontes* for Edinburgh, distinguishing himself on boardship by killing a monkey. Major Wilson again became possessed of him at Karachi and kept him till his death. "Punch" who was about eleven years old was a well-known dog in the 91st and was an ideal brindled bull, game to the backbone.

* * * * *

At noon on the 14th instant the time-expired men for the *S. S. Bothnia*, the last chartered troopship to leave Karachi Harbour for Gosport, paraded, and were marched to the rest-camp by the Captain of the week. The party consisted of Lance-Sergeant Bissell and 51 men, also of 20 odd men of the King's Own Scottish Borderers who have been attached since the departure of their battalion for Pindi. Major Wilson proceeded in charge of the party which left the rest-camp by troop-train on the evening of the 16th instant.

* * * * *

Sergeant T. Mackenzie and Sergeant C. Duncan have been selected for admission to the Thomason College, Roorki. Sergeant Mackenzie passed first on the list of candidates and Sergeant Duncan seventh.

* * * * *

Our Polo team has returned from the Infantry Polo Tournament at Lucknow, defeated but not disgraced. The team, which consisted of Lieutenants A. Patten, Duncan Darroch and Neil Malcolm and 2nd Lieutenant Johnston Stewart, was unfortunate enough to meet the King's Own Scottish Borderers, one of the best teams in the Tournament in the first round and suffered defeat by 7 goals and 3 *subsidiaries* to 1 *subsidiary*.

* * * * *

In marching from Sialkot to Jhansi in the autumn of 1866 this regiment passed along the same road—only in the opposite direction—as when marching from Umballa here. Colonel P. D. Trotter who was then an Ensign and Lieutenant and Quarter master Forbes are the only two at present with the battalion who were on that march.

———o:———

Umballa to Mian Mir.

(concluded).

THE rain continued throughout the day (Saturday, January 20th) so no move was made and we remained at Bara; no rations were issued for dinner and as no bread could be had in camp, the ménu for dinner was a distinct change from the usual commissariat supply and consisted chiefly of beer and cake or lemonade and cake according to taste. This camp was christened by the troops "starvation camp." During the afternoon, owing to the wet state of the ground straw was issued to the troops, and the last order of the day was "stand fast till ordered to strike tents."

More rain fell during the night and at reveillé next morning it was very evident that we would remain stationary, walking was out of the question, and great was the speculation amongst us as to whether the march would be completed in the train or not.

At night time a small quantity of rum was issued to each man, but the quantity was so small, that to do any good it had to be taken with a vast quantity of "faith," but, it was a free issue.

Monday morning brought no change in the weather and things came to stagnation point. The A. T. A. and coffee-shop exhausted their supplies, and matches became very scarce, so much so, that each tent burned a candle for the simple purpose of lighting pipes. At night the order was the same as on the three previous nights. On reveillé sounding the following morning, our moving seemed very doubtful, but after 9 o'clock breakfast, we were ordered to pack our blankets and baggage and send them off, after which tents were turned, to dry them, then struck, and about 11·30 A.M., we marched off and some 6 miles out of camp passed some

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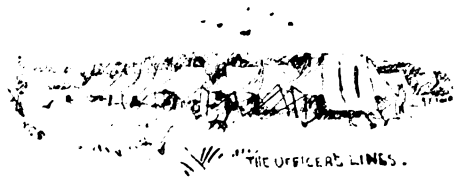
companies of the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers, two of whose officers were grand specimens of the British officer, but the men seemed to be enjoying rather bad health. We also passed some of the 17th Bengal Cavalry, who were *en-route* to Umballa, and found on arriving our next camping ground Khuna-ki-Serai that we had some 300 of this splendid body of men lying beside us. Their fighting qualities are grand, but their morals are rather lax, and we were specially warned to look after our rifles, as these gentry have a great affection for the English rifle and are not in the least scrupulous as to how they obtain possession of it.



The camping ground here was very sandy and a great improvement on Bara, and showed very little evidence of the last 4 days rain. In the evening the Native troops treated us to a huge bon-fire round which they indulged in various kinds of war-dances; to which our pipers, led by Pipe-Major Ferguson, replied with a Scotch Reel, and Piper Anderson gave a display of the Highland Fling and Sword Dance; the natives were highly delighted and applauded after the manner of their kind by prolonged howling

By 9 A. M. next morning we were again on the march, the road was in good condition, and the country seemed more wooded, we passed numerous villages, but one of the most interesting objects was a little camel some 7 hours old; how many of our European pets would care to tackle a 14 miles march at such a short notice? About 58 miles from Umballa we reached Dowraha a large native village, through which runs a large canal, thereby offering an opportunity for a bathe.

At this station we received the home mail; after a very cold night we turned out at 6·30 next morning and by 9 o'clock re-continued our march, passing numerous villages and strings upon strings of horses, evidently going to some fair.

The usual halt was made at the half-way house, and about 6 miles further we arrived at Ludhiana; our camping ground lay next to the Zoological Gardens where there was a magnificent collection of animals consisting of a wolf and two monkeys. During the afternoon "D" Company trained to Phillour and at night-time the left half battalion was ordered to "stand fast till the Bawachi came next morning," however there was but little marching next day, for we trained by companies to Phillour the last company not reaching camp till late in the evening. All the baggage got most fearfully mixed and taking everything into consideration "training it" proved more fatiguing than marching. On crossing the railway bridge a very interesting looking Fort was observed on our right, but owing to unfavourable circumstances could not be visited. The night was bitterly cold; rain fell in considerable quantities, and when morning broke the sky was very dull and threatening, however we moved off about 10 A. M. and as this was a very short march we had no half-way house and finally reached our next camp at Phagwara about 2 P. M., here the ground was very damp indeed and the straw issued proved most acceptable. Next day (Sunday, January 28th) we marched off at 9 A. M. and some 3 miles out from camp got caught in a sharp shower of rain which necessitated our cloaking, the usual halt at the half-way house was made, and after more rain accompanied by distant peals of thunder we arrived at Jullundur, our camping ground being situated about a mile from the city. Here we had many visitors from "The Buffs," and their sergeants most hospitably

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had a sumptuous spread to which all our sergeants were invited. At night half a dram of rum was issued per man to counteract the effects of the rain. The following day we rested; and the weather seemed to have settled after the thunder storm and a friendly match at "Rugby" was indulged in between "The Buffs" and "ours."

On Tuesday our march was resumed and the first four miles took us through the old city, after leaving which an accident happened to the big drum of the "pipes," the hook of the sling gave way, and nearly caused Drummer Green to perform a somersault over his instrument. At 1 P. M we reached Kartarpur, at which place is the temple where the chief priest of the Sikh religion dwells.

This amply repaid a visit and was found to be surrounded by a very old but substantially built fort. The natives were very friendly, but regarding their religious ceremonies one had to be most careful. The night was very cold as was also next morning when we rose somewhat earlier than usual as some difficulty was anticipated in crossing the bridge-of-boats over the River Beyn, but that bridge was not, and a substantial bridge of bricks proved quite capable of accommodating the battalion, and without mishap we reached Girana about 12 o'clock. After dinner all

sulletahs had to be packed by 2 P. M., but were unpacked before 3 P. M., in fact nothing definite was known. This was the best camping ground on which we had as yet lain, with a plentiful supply of water and some good bathing places. At this camp there was a very saddening spectacle in the shape of a grave with a little wooden cross erected to the memory of Lance Corporal Snowling, 5th Northumberland Fusiliers, who, poor fellow, had died at Reya Camp; during the afternoon "B" Company moved on to Reya Camp to assist the transport crossing the "Beas." At this camp pigeons doves and snipe were plentiful and our sportsmen were busy; but here, as at Kartarpur the coffee shop "roti" supply ran short.

Reveillé sounded next morning at the usual time and by 7-30 the camp was clear of all baggage. "C" and "D" Companies marched off after breakfast to assist with the transport, for the "Beas" was a veritable river and had to be crossed by boats; whilst the rest of the battalion did not leave camp till 1 P.M., and marched down to the banks of the river. This river seemed to be divided into three channels by two sand banks in the centre thereby rendering three changes of boats necessary. The boats used were clumsy, flat-bottomed wooden concerns, about 36 feet by 15 feet, capable of carrying

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from 75 to 100 men and were propelled either by the boatmen themselves pushing or where the water was deeper, by long bamboo poles. Some of the camels proved rather "bobbery" in crossing and one plunged overboard and getting his load well over his head endeavoured to commit suicide but fortunately his evil design was frustrated. After crossing each company formed up and marched off independently when complete, and it was nearly 7 P.M. ere the last company arrived at Raya our next camping ground.

The following day we marched off at 9 A.M. and, after some six miles had been covered, halted at the half-way house, refreshed ourselves, then fell in and the usual monthly judging distance practice was indulged in, and on that being satisfactorily concluded we proceeded on our way, and about 1-30 arrived at Jandiala. Here we were specially warned against the hostile attitude of the natives against the regimental "Bow-wows," several of which had been poisoned at the last camp. Nothing of particular moment occurred here, and the following morning after the usual preliminaries we started on our road to Amritsar, about two miles from which signs of civilization became general.

On entering Amritsar we passed Aitchison gardens on our left and shortly after noticed the Fort immediately in front of us which is garrisoned by nine men of the R. A., some of the 20th Punjab Infantry and 30 men from the detachment of the 21st Scotch Fusiliers stationed here, our camp lay to the left of the Fort, and the ground was in capital condition. During the evening we had numerous visitors from the 21st, and many of us went over the Fort, which is capable of accommodating the entire European inhabitants of Amritsar in case of any trifling argument arising with the natives. Next day Sunday we rested, and those suffering from Saturday-night effects found a visit to the Fort between 10 and 11 A.M. most beneficial. After dinner many of us visited the city, the chief attraction of which was the Golden Temple. in visiting which we had to exchange our shoes for soft slippers. As it would be impossible to attempt a description of the Temple here we trust to favour our readers to a full account of it somewhat later in the year.

From the towers in the precincts of the Temple a glorious view of the city and surrounding country could be obtained. We continued our march on the following day, and our distance was judged by so many miles

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from Lahore so, the march was fast drawing to a close. The road was rather rugged, country very open, and, judging by the flocks of duck passing, there was good shooting to be had. Some 11½ miles from Amritsar we marched into our camp at Ghurenda, where the details for Lahore Fort were published.

Next morning we left camp at the usual hour the weather was dull but warm, and after the customary half-way halt, continued our march till Chubeel, our last camping ground was reached. Rain fell during the night, and in the early morning soon after reveillé we piled arms packed and despatched the tents, baggage, &c., and as we were having breakfast down came the rain; when we were fairly wet the order came, "Put on capes if rain continues," the rain did continue, and we accordingly "caped" and at 9 o'clock fell in and marched off. Rain fell at intervals during the first four miles, but the sun came at our half-way halting place, where the Lahore contingent, left us under 2nd Lieutenant Stevenson.

Here we rolled capes, and after the usual rest resumed our march, after proceeding about a mile we branched off to the left from the Grand Trunk Road, and were met by the band and pipes of the 2nd Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers who played us into barracks, and at last we had reached the goal of our march,

MIAN MIR.

MAC.

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Lahore District Assault-at-Arms.

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THE District Assault-at-Arms was held on the afternoons of the 30th and 31st January on the maidan in front of barracks, where a large enclosure was roped in and a raised platform built for a grand stand, on either side of which were the seats of the different regiments in garrison who dispensed hospitality to all comers. The signalling competitions were held outside the enclosure on the maidan, the one for British corps being judged by Captain Walker 20th Punjab Infantry, who awarded first prize to the 93rd and second to the Seaforth Highlanders. The competition, which was confined to the sending of service messages was won by the regimental team in seven seconds less time than the Seaforths and there were no mistakes. The value of this prize was Rs 36.

In the tug-of-war the team entered by the detachment 93rd was scratched, as they were not on the ground in time. When they did arrive they were two men short. The 1st team, King's Own Scottish Borderers beat the 2nd team of that regiment and then our regimental team pulled the Buffs over. We were rather at a disadvantage in not having Walker who had not returned from Lucknow with the football team and also on account of it not being known at headquarters that the teams were to be of 12 men. In consequence three men had to be taken from the detachment. In addition to this our team having been on the march for a fortnight and having had very short notice of the Assault-at-Arms were very much out of practice.

The Buffs' team, a very fine one, looked in very good training and the general opinion of the spectators was that they would have an easy victory, but as it turned out they never had a chance. We moved them at once and pulled them all across the line without a check. Very slowly it is true, but they never regained an inch. Corporal Gillespie coached our team in the absence of Sergeant Blacklock at Lucknow.

In the final on the second day we had very little difficulty in beating the first team of the Borderers, who were not nearly as heavy a team as ours and had we heard only been practising for a very short time. On this day the competitions in bayonet exercise and physical drill were held. In those for British troops the Buffs took both first and the Seaforths both second prizes. Indeed the Buffs won most of the events for which they entered and must amongst them have taken a considerable amount of money back to Jullundur. Gurkhas won the prizes in these competitions for native troops, but which regiments they belonged to we do not now remember. There were three battalions represented and all were very smart. The tent-pegging resulted in a competition between the 18th and 19th Bengal Lancers. In the Officers' competition, Colonel Richardson of the 18th won, taking both pegs in very good style, for which he got a very handsome silver bowl. In the tent-pegging by sections of Native troops the 18th Bengal Lancers also won.

At the conclusion the prizes were distributed, Sergeant Smith going up to receive ours which amounted to Rs. 96.

———:o:———

There was a young man at Mian Mir,
Who, one day seemed awfully quir,
When he stood on parade,
The "flag" to him said
You're a *thora puggal* with bír.

——o——

An officer returning to his quarters unexpectedly one day, found his bâtman helping himself to some of his choicest cigars. "Smith" he exclaimed indignantly, "I'm d——d well surprised," so am I," replied the unabashed bâtman, "I didn't know you were there."

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

That "B" Company "quiffed" the "first boat."

That it heard of a man marching with a "6-4" and a "7-2" boot.

That we got two first's at the Assault-at-Arms.

That it was very good for a start.

That the tug-of-war team was better than it looked.

That the signallers never expected to be in it.

That being on the march made no difference.

That the football team got a good licking at Lucknow.

That doesn't pity them in the least.

That they should have fatigues for the remainder of their "7."

That the H. L. I. were a better team.

That our team must "put a spring in it."

That it would have liked to have got out of the march too.

That there was no such luck.

That the last trooper is away: thank goodness!

That there are very few "do badges" left.

That the "regimental time" should enter for the "go as you please."

———:o:———

New Year in Edinburgh Castle.

—o—

THE usual New Year festivities were held in the Castle. On Sunday night the sergeants in their mess-room saw the old year out, and brought the New Year in. At midnight the regimental band started from the Crown square and marched to the officer's mess, playing "A Guid New Year to ane and a." The pipers then took up the strain, and escorted the whole of the officers to the sergeants' mess, where toasts were given and healths were drunk. Sergeant-Major WILLIAMSON proposed: "The health of Colonel Hannay and the Officers," which was received with Highland honours, the sergeants joining in singing "For they are jolly good fellows." The Colonel responded, and expressed his gratification at the good feeling which subsisted between the officers and sergeants, hoped that it might long continue, and added an assurance of the pleasure it afforded him to be among them in the year of the regiment's centenary, more especially when that centenary was to be celebrated in the capital of Scotland. He concluded by proposing "The health of the Sergeants," to which the Sergeant-Major responded. Among the toasts which followed was "The Sister Battalion in India" (the old 93rd), responding to which Colonel Hannay alluded to his early service with the battalion, and spoke in terms of gratification of the good feeling which subsisted between the men in India and those at home. Yesterday the rank and file of the regiment had their New Year's dinners in the course of which they were visited in customary fashion by the Colonel and the other officers who wished each company success and a prosperous New Year. When the dinners were over smoking concerts, dancing, and other amusements were engaged in, and the day passed with merrymaking and rejoicing. The public were excluded from the Castle, only friends of the soldiers being admitted, and as all duties and parades were dispensed with, and discipline was greatly relaxed, the men spent a very pleasant and enjoyable day.

The Scotsman.

A timid young girl of Chubil,
At the sight of a mouse she would squil,
Yet when "we" camped there
At us she would stare,
And delighted in watching a ril.

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Murray Cup Tournament.

—o—

OUR team, in charge of Sergeant Blacklock, left Umballa on the morning of January 16th just as the battalion moved off on its way to Mian Mir, and arrived at Lucknow about 6 o'clock the following morning and at once proceeded to the comfortable quarters kindly granted to them by Colonel Babington, the Officer Commanding 16th Lancers. Squadron Sergeant-Major Stevenson, who by the way at the Assault-at-Arms proved himself a very good man upstairs, had a substantial breakfast waiting for them, to which they did ample justice.

In the evening practice was indulged in, and also on every subsequent morning and evening.

On Saturday, January 20th, the initial match of the tournament took place between the 74th and the Munsters, but this proved most one-sided, and consequently rather uninteresting as the former team simply scored when they liked and contented themselves by winning with seven goals to *nil*. The Oxford Light Infantry were drawn to play against the 21st Royal Scotch Fusiliers, but owing to the latter scratching, secured a bye. Next day being Sunday, most of the players visited the places of interest in and about Lucknow, and on Monday the second tie was decided; four matches were down for this date, but as the East Lancashires scratched the 16th Lancers had a bye, and thus only three games were played. In the first Royal Irish *v.* "K" Battery, R. H. A., the Irishmen had matters pretty well their own way and despite the efforts of the artillerymen scored a victory by five goals to *nil*.

Our team then played against the 2nd Field Battery, R. A., but in justice to the latter it must be said they only played to make a match, and we won easily by 10 goals to 1, the 74th then did battle against the Oxford Light Infantry and had matters all their own way winning hands down by eight goals to love. On Wednesday the momentous question to be decided was, who would left in for the final, but regarding that there was very little doubt, as virtually speaking there were only two teams in it. The 74th played against the Royal Irish, and although the latter played up pluckily they could not score, and the former won comfortably by 6 goals to one. The 16th Lancers played against our team, simply to keep interest alive and our team scoring occasionally, as the spirit moved them, won by seven goals to *nil*. On Friday at 4 P.M., in beautiful weather, we met our Simla conquerors, and it was hoped by our supporters that that result would be reversed, but such hopes were doomed to disappointment, as the result from start to finish was never greatly in doubt.

The Highland Light Infantry started the ball rolling and for the first fifteen minutes the game proved interesting, but after the Highland Light Infantry score their first goal, a goal by the by that should have been stopped easily, our team seemed to go to pieces and played without heart or combination, and the Highland Light Infantry playing well together repeatedly broke through our defence and winning by four goals to nothing, were returned victors in the Murray Cup Tournament for 1894.

———:o:———

BIRTH.

Wright.—On the 8th instant at Umballa, the wife of Color-Sergeant J. Wright, of a son.

DEATH.

Pike.—On the 23rd ultimo at Umballa Station Hospital, No. 4203 Private S. Pike, "D" Company, of enteric fever.

———:o:———

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Regimental Gazette.

LIEUTENANT M. McNeill is appointed Brigade Instructor in Army Signalling.

Promotions.—No. 2760 Lance-Sergeant J. Gunn, "F" Company, is promoted Sergeant *vice* Dickson, transferred to Army Reserve. No. 2722 Private J. McPherson, "E" Company, is appointed Lance-Corporal, while employed in the Telegraphy Department.

Transport certificates.—No. 1980 Corporal J. Mackie, "E" Company; No. 3498 Lance-Corporal Harrower, "H" Company; No. 3389 Lance-Corporal Potter, "D" Company; and No. 3385 Private F. Dancey, "D" Company, have been granted Transport certificates, qualifying them as Regimental Transport Assistants.

Appointments.—No. 3006 Corporal J. Ewan, "F" Company, is appointed Garrison Librarian; No. 4116 Lance-Corporal Harris, "B" Company, is appointed Writer to the Station Hospital, Mian Mir; No. 3809 Private G. Watson, "A" Company, is appointed writer to the Station Hospital, Fort Lahore.

Hospital Matron.—Mrs. A. Millar is appointed Matron to the Station Hospital for soldiers' wives and children.

School Mistress.—Mrs. Wynne is appointed Acting School Mistress.

Employments.—No. 4247 Drummer J. Carlyle, "C" Company; No. 2395 Private A. Yule, "C" Company; No. 2900 Private W. Ritchie, "E" Company; and No. 2393 Private J. Good, "F" Company, to be employed on the Rest Camp Police.

No. 3319 Private A. Partridge, No. 4176 Private C. Outram, "B" Company; No. 2915 Private A. Sandilands, No. 3173 Private A. Pake, "D" Company; No. 2392 Private W. Frame, "E" Company; No. 2761 Private D. Hill, "F" Company; No. 3417 Private D. Parker, "G" Company; and No. 3738 Private A. Sutton and No. 3195 Private G. Williams, "H" Company, to be Hospital Orderlies.

No. 3137 Private S. Johnstone, "H" Company, to be Presbyterian Orderly.

No. 3178 Private C. Jacks, "E" Company, to be Church of England Orderly.

No. 2815 Private J. Drummond, "D" Company, to be waiter in the Corporals' Room.

No. 2828 Private G. Hill and No. 3271 Private W. Kay, "F" Company, to be markers in the Regimental Billiard Room.

No. 3684 Private R. Webb, "G" Company, to be Pioneer.

No. 4689 Private A. Mavour, "G" Company, to be employed on conservancy; No. 2914 Private G. McTavish "G" Company, to be Coffee shop waiter; No. 2433 Private A. Liddle, "G" Company; to be Cook Orderly in Sergeants' Mess; No. 2611 Private J. Reid, to be employed destroying dogs.

Admission to Roorki.—No. 2154 Sergeant F. Mackenzie, "C" Company, and No. 2582 Sergeant C. Duncan, "E" Company, have been selected for admission to the Upper Subordinate Class in the Thomason College, Roorki.

First class certificates of Education.—No. 3006 Corporal J. Ewan, and No. 3794 Private J. Mathieson, "F" Company; No. 4269 Lance-Corporal Fessanges, and No. 3171 Private F. Morton, "E" Company; No. 3913 Private A. Munn, "A" Company, have passed in Group I; and No. 2571 Private J. Walsh, "G" Company, and No. 4395 Private A. Hunter, "H" Company, in Group II, for first class certificates.

Good Conduct Pay.—No. 1782 Drummer W. Walker, "A" Company; No. 2248 Private W. Wilson, and No. 2792 Lance-Corporal R. Crichton, "B" Company; No. 2809 Private T. Lyons, "E" Company; No. 2791 Private A. Notman; No. 2797 Private A. Johnstone; and No 2804 Private W. Russell, "F" Company; No. 2803 Private W. Young, "G" Company, granted 2*d*; No. 2808 Lance-Sergeant G. Souter, eligible for 2*d*; No. 4366 Private C. Graham, and No. 4202 Private C. Hawkinson, "C" Company; No. 4395 Private A. Hunter, "H" Company, granted 1*d*.; No. 2234 Private T. Hutchison; and No. 2351 Private Rosemond, "A" Company; No. 3300 Private D. Ward, "C" Company; No. 3490 Private R. Dyer, and No. 3721 Private G. Donovan, "F" Company, restored 1*d*.

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At the Fort.

—o—

ON Wednesday, the 7th instant, we, that is, 82 non-commissioned officers and men of "A" Company, under 2nd Lieutenant Malcolm Stevenson, took over Fort Lahore from a detachment of the 2nd Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers. The first few days were spent in inspecting our new quarters with which the troops are immensely pleased. Lieutenant Stevenson has been most indefatigable in looking after the comfort of the troops, and is a model "Fort Commandant," although some say that he carries a little "extra side," but then one cannot believe all one hears. There is a detachment of the 34th Punjab Pioneers stationed here who find all the inner guards. Six men of "ours" mount guard daily, three for duty on the front gate, and three to "carry the stick" during the day, and do "sentry go" at night on the magazine. The duties of the men who carry the stick are to escort visitors round the fort, and to see that no sketches are made. In the case of native visitors, a native orderly accompanies them. It is almost unnecessary to state that the almighty rupee is greatly in vogue, and to use the words of the detachment "barrel-dancer," you mount guard, *a ghrib admi*, and come off "a rajah." Privates Kerr and Learmont have opened a refreshment bar in the bungalow, and seem to be doing good, biz "strap" and otherwise.

On Saturday, the 10th instant, the "32's" played the "38's" at football, but had to put up with defeat to the tune of three goals to *nil*, and on Friday, the 23rd instant, the "youngsters" were again victorious, beating their opponents by three goals to one.

—:o:—

Bars from the Barrack Room.

—o—

TIME-EX.

Yes, it's me right enough, there, don't slobber!
But sling this 'ere baggage inside;
Don't be frightened, it only olds clobber,
Some socks and a shirt, worn, and snide.
And *I'm* a bit part-worn, I know it!
Seven summers abroad put the fix
On a feller's appearance, for blow it!
I'm bald and not turned twenty-six.

For the parrot pegged out at Doolally,
The monkey get drowned just off Gib,
And the shawl bought from old Amir Ali,
I sold to a bloke for a dib.
I aint brought no curios mother!
No treasures from over the sea.
Save one, and that treasure's none other
My own darling mother but me!

Yes, I reckon I'm lucky in dodgin'
What many a poor soldier cops,
And finds in some graveyard a lodgin'
Where jackals howl over his tots.
It's all touch and go like in Indy,
A chap snuffs it there in a jiff
In the canteen at night makes a shindy,
Next mornin' he's lyin' out stiff.

So 'eres to your fireside enticin',
And 'eres to your apron strings,
Around 'em a big knot I'm splicin',
My 'ook from 'ome I ne'er slings.
And give to some "ringer" my rifle,
And give him my straps and valise,
Just tell him to clean 'em trifle,
I'm on the Kent County Police!

BOGGLEY WALLAH.—*In the Dragon.*

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Editor's Notes.

—o—

AS the doings of anyone belonging to this battalion are sure to be read with interest, we hasten to chronicle the success of Mr. Newall of ours in the part of "Phil" in the amusing farce of "Wig and Gown," and we are glad to learn, through the medium of "The XXX," the regimental paper of the 1st Battalion East Lancashire Regiment, January Number, that he did not belie his nationality. Here's tae him.

* * * * * *

Now that we have been fairly, decisively and squarely beaten at football by the H. L. I., do not let us waste time by seeking for paltry excuses to palliate our defeat, but let us try if possible to find out where the weakness lay, and what caused it. Individually we had a very strong team, but there was no combination.

That surely could be remedied by practice, only don't let us keep changing the men's positions in the field, always play the same men in the same places, and they will get to know each other's play and such knowledge will beget confidence.

* * * * * *

Another thing always stick to one trainer, each trainer has his own system; but can anyone conceive, say a horse, for instance, being trained at home for some important event, and within a few days of the meeting being sent to the place under the charge of a man totally unacquainted with the nature of the exercise that the animal has hitherto been indulged in; it is absurd.

Therefore we say, let the man responsible for the training of the team, invariably accompany the team and stand or fall in its successes or reverses.

One word more, take steps to ascertain that each man is physically fit to do battle for the battalion ere sending him to the field of action.

Foot-Ball.

—:o:—

RETURNING from the Murray Cup Tournament at Lucknow our team stayed at Umballa on the 2nd instant, and played a match with the Somerset Light Infantry, securing an easy win by 4 goals to nothing. Arriving here on the 3rd instant, they played against the King's Own Scottish Borderers, the game resulting in a draw with one goal each.

On the 13th instant, a team of Time-expired men from the rest-camp were played against, the match resulting in an easy win for our team by 8 goals to *nil*.

The league matches are again in full swing as the two companies last from the hills, both had their ties to play off. The results proved that neither stood much chance for the trophy and the championship now rests between "B" and "C" Companies.

LEAGUE MATCHES.

"*E*" *Company v.* "*F*" *Company.*—This match resulted in an easy win for the latter company by 3 goals to one.

"*B*" *Company v.* "*E*" *Company.*—In this match "B" had an easy win although playing rather a loose game at times. Duffin and Hutton played well together and scored most of the goals for "B" Company. Result "B" Company 5 goals; "E" Company 0.

"*C*" *Company v.* "*F*" *Company.*—In this match the forwards of "C" had matters all their own way and succeeded in scoring 5 goals of "F" Company's 0.

—:o:—

Yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks the following subscriptions for the year ending December 1894:—

Mr. John MacDonald, Manitoba, Canada.
„ R. MacDonald, Edinburgh.
„ Thos. R. Johnston, Minnissota, U. S. A.
Major Chas. Grant, 93rd Highlanders.
A. Patten, Esq., 93rd Highlanders.
Rev. G. W. Oxborough, Mian Mir.

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Our Contemporaries.

—o—

We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following :—

"The Soldier."
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.).
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The XXX" (1st E. Lancashire Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).
"The 5 and 9, Lillywhites Gazette" (2nd E. Lancashire Regiment).
"The 79th News" (Cameron Highlanders)
"I'm Ninety-five" (2nd Derbyshire Regiment).
"[illegible]nes" (99th Wiltshire Regiment.)
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).

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Company Agents.

—o—

"A" Company—Private Watson.
"B" Company—Private Cassels.
"C" Company—Corporal Miller.
"D" Company—Lance-Corporal Rankin.
"E" Company—Lance-Corporal Rastall.
"F" Company—Lance-Corporal Baldwin.
"G" Company—Private Parker.
"H" Company—Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Lce. Cpl. Jones.
Fort Lahore—Drummer McQueen.

Rates of Subscription.

—o—

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	„ year,	Re. 1-14
Officers and others not connected with the Regiment.	Rs. 3 per annum.	

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Nota Bene.

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All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any item of news, they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to The Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

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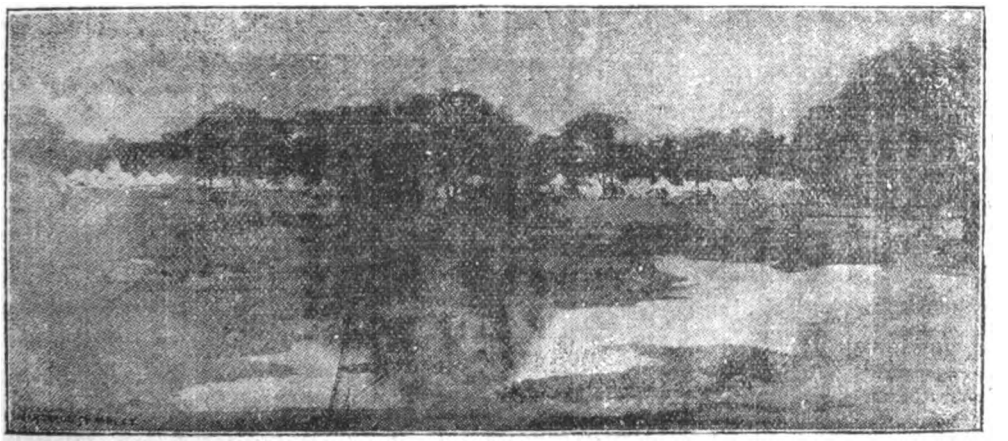
XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 3.—Vol. I. MIAN MIR,—MARCH 31st, 1894. Price, 2 Annas.



From Photo by Law Bros., Umballa.

Our Late Camp at Umballa.

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SKIRLS

THE usual weekly Sergeants' dances have again commenced, the first one taking place in the Mess room on the evening of Wednesday the 21st ultimo. Sergeant J. H. Symcox was a most unflagging and efficient M. C., and was responsible for all the excellent arrangements.

* * * * * *

The Theatre was occupied on the nights of 22nd, 23rd and 24th ultimo by the Sullivan and Ino Variety Troupe, but the performances being of rather an inferior order, only small audiences attended.

* * * * * *

On Monday, the 26th ultimo, and following days, the inspection of the Battalion by the General Officer Commanding the Lahore District, Major-General Viscount Frankfort, took place, the inspection lasting three days; the General seemed to be well pleased with what he saw and expressed his willingness to report most favourably on the Battalion.

* * * * * *

Owing to Captain Walker's retirement from the service, Captain Mervyn de Montmorency of the Hampshire Regiment has been appointed to the Adjutancy of the 3rd (Renfrew) Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

* * * * * *

Captain Davidson who exchanged from the 1st Battalion with Captain Foster, arrived on the 24th February and has taken over command of "H" Company.

A memorial stone has lately been erected in St. Peter's Church, Aberdeen, over the grave of a late Pipe-Major of our 4th Battalion, Pipe-Major Henry Sinclair Mackay. He served with the Ninety-third in the Crimea and Mutiny campaigns and trained the first pipers of the Maharaja of Patiala's Imperial Service Troops. He was a native of Caithness, but after leaving the service settled down at our old Depôt, Aberdeen. He established a branch of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Association and did much to further the causes of obtaining pensions for Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans in the "Granite City."

* * * * *

At the annual inspection of the Volunteers we furnished a party of 150 men under Major Grant to represent a force attacking Lahore which was covered by the Volunteers. Both sides claim a decisive victory. Afterwards the Volunteers provided us with drinks on the Brigade parade ground, for which our gratitude is due.

* * * * *

The allowance of ball ammunition for Battalions of British Infantry from 1st April 1894 is to be supplied in the proportion of 50 rounds Cordite to 150 rounds black powder, and the following practices are to be performed with the former ammunition :—

Section attack 21 rounds. Volley firing with magazines at 500 yards in single rank kneeling. 7 rounds. Independent with magazine at 300 yards 7 rounds. Field firing 15 rounds.

* * * * * *

A Tent of the Independent Order of Rechabites has been instituted in the Battalion and already boasts nearly 30 members.

* * * * * *

The Football Clock is lost and won as on Wednesday, the 7th instant, after a most exciting match, "B" Company succeeded in beating "C" Company by two goals to one; it was the third time that these companies had met this football season, the first match being a draw, the second

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a win for "C" Company, and the last as above stated ending in a well-earned victory for "B" Company.

* * * * * *

Cricket has at last commenced and Colonel Trotter's Cricket Clock is now likely to leave its lofty position in the Sergeants' Mess. The matches played have, however, not been of a very high order and the cricket interest in some Companies unfortunately seems to be very lukewarm indeed.

* * * * * *

At the Seaforth Highlanders Regimental Sports, held at Ferozepore on the 9th and 10th instant, Private Dominic Kelly won the mile race which was open to British troops; he also ran third in the half mile. Piper R. Anderson took second prize in an open competition for pipe-playing.

* * * * * *

The number of Infantry Battalions serving in this country will, in the trooping season of 1894-95, be reduced from 53 to 52. To compensate for this last however the strength of the Battalions remaining will be raised from 880 to 900 rank and file.

* * * * * *

The last few days the weather has been much warmer, and "retreat" now sounds at six o'clock instead of at five.

* * * * * *

At a Variety Entertainment at the Montgomery Hall, Lahore, on the 12th instant, Mr. Darroch sang, and Piper Anderson danced a Gillie Callum and Highland Fling. Mrs. Kemball and Misses Holdich, Sandiford and Bromhead with Major Campbell, Captain McKerrell, Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Macdonald of "Ours" danced a Minuet which was the event of the evening.

* * * * * *

Lately there have been a good many troops in the Rest Camp almost every day drafts, proceeding up-country to join their respective Battalions in the various stations of Northern India have been encamped there. On these occasions our Sergeants have kept open house for their brother non-commissioned officers and everything has been done to make these passing visitors take away with them pleasing memories of the hospitality of the Sergeants of the Ninety-third.

* * * * * *

Captain Robinson joined for duty on 13th March, having exchanged from 1st Battalion with Captain Thorburn. Captain Robinson, who left the 93rd at Glasgow just ten years ago, came out in the *Bothnia* with a draft for the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, which he had to take to Roorkee.

* * * * *

The two best shots from each company competed at the range on the 12th instant for the honor of being "Regimental shot." Private James Brown, "C" Company, after tieing with Sergeant Soutar was declared the winner.

* * * * *

The 1st Battalion goes to Aldershot in June for the manœuvres and will afterwards take over barracks in the North Camp. The 2nd Royal Highlanders (the Black Watch) at Glasgow will relieve them at Edinburgh Castle.

* * * * *

After the conclusion of their Camp of Exercise the Punjab Light Horse celebrated the occasion, on the 16th instant, by giving a grand Ball in the Montgomery Hall; the guests were numerous, several of our Sergeants being present and dancing was kept up to an early hour the following morning.

* * * * *

On the nights of the 19th and 20th instant the Maven Folly Company performed in the Regimental Theatre. The entertainment was a capital one and was thoroughly appreciated by the large audiences that attended on both nights.

* * * * *

The dramatic talent of "H" Company is having plenty of scope as weekly "Gaffs" are given in the verandah of the Company bungalow; Saturday nights are the nights chosen for these performances and large and demonstrative audiences attend.

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General's Inspection.

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THE Major-General commanding held the annual inspection of the Regiment on the 26th, 27th and 28th March. The inspection was of a most searching nature and was held in the mornings and afternoons of these dates. On Monday, 26th, we paraded in Field service order at 9 A.M., and were inspected in column by the General, who asked questions of several officers and non-commissioned officers, as he was passing down the ranks. After this, books were inspected at the Orderly Room. Parade again at 3 P.M., when we doubled in quarter column to a flag 500 yards in front and back again. After this Company Drill by subaltern officers. One company was sent out to represent a picquet in a line of outpost, two did the drill of attack, and the remainder did parade movements. Parade was over about 5 P.M.

Parade again on Tuesday morning at 9 A.M. for outpost. The general idea was that a force was advancing from Lahore to attack Mian Mir, and that the Battalion was sent out as the right of a line of outposts covering the station. The front occupied by us being from the road leading past Mian Mir West Railway Station on the left, to the Waterworks on the right. E, F, and G companies provided the picquets and supports. The former were placed on the line of the Bari Doab Canal with their sentries pushed forward to about in line with the Aitchison College. The remaining companies under Major Campbell formed the reserve which was placed just across the Railway line beyond the Brigade parade ground.

Punctually at 10 o'clock the General appeared at the left of the line of picquets and rode round the front of the sentry line. The "Retire" was then sounded and the picquets fell back on the supports who took up the firing as soon as their front was clear. The supports were placed in a dry irrigation ditch parallel to the Bari Doab Canal and about 600 yards in rear of it.

From this second position we marched back to barracks, the reserves not being engaged at all

Paraded again at 3-10 and marched up to the 20th P. I. Parade ground and practised the drill of attack, the objective being the right section of the Rest Camp. Major Campbell commanded the second line and Major Grant the third. After this the Adjutant put the Battalion through the physical drill and the men were dismissed. The officers were put through the sword exercise by Major Fetherstonhaugh, and the General concluded the day's work by inspecting the married quarters

The following morning was very wet, but at 9 A.M. all the officers were on the range and several squads of men for revolver and rifle shooting.

After this range finding with the mekometer was practised, each officer taking a range, and Major Fetherstonhaugh examined the officers in drill and musketry. Kit inspection and dinners at 1 o'clock and parade again at 3-30 in review order. The General was received in line with a salute and after he had ridden down the line we marched past in column and quarter column. Major Fetherstonhaugh afterwards put the Battalion through the manual and firing exercises, and after that the bayonet exercise in quick time was performed under the Adjutant. We were then drilled by the senior officers for a short time and were finally formed up in quarter column about 5-30 P.M., and addressed by Lord Frankfort, who said: "Colonel Trotter, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders: – I have now completed my annual inspection and I am very well satisfied with what I have seen. I shall report you as fit for service in the field." The General then rode home and we were dismissed. On Saturday 3rd March, the General and Staff dined with the officers at the Mess.

A COUNTRYMAN had done some job for an Irish priest, and the latter offered him half a glass of whiskey for his trouble, saying: "There Pat, that whiskey is twenty years old." "Thin, yer riverence," replied the yokel, "its moighty small for its age."

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The Industrial Exhibition.

—:o:—

THE report on the Soldiers' Industrial Exhibition, which is held annually at some large cantonment, and which this year took place at Calcutta, has just reached us. According to this report 36 regiments exhibited, against 29 last year and the number of articles exhibited shows a corresponding increase. The total number of exhibits amounted to 759, the sale of these articles reaching the very fair sum of Rs 2,500. Fifteen members of this Regiment sent specimens of their work, in all amounting to 32 exhibits, 19 prizes were secured and Rs. 297 was the amount of the prize money. We stood seventh on the list for the number of articles exhibited and sixth on the list of prizes gained, which must be considered very good indeed. In Class I.—Carpenters', Coopers' and Joiners' work, Pioneer Sergeant Maxwell secured a prize of Rs. 25 for a Color-Sergeant's Stationery Box; the same exhibitor also getting in Class II.—Turnery and Fancy wood-work. 2nd, 3rd, 7th and 8th prizes for a Stationery Case, Writing Desk, Clock Stand and Pen rack, respectively. In Class VIII, Painting, Drawing and Etching, Lance-Sergeant W. G. Stonor secured first prize for three original water-color sketches; Private W. Wilson was also successful in the same class. For an Officer's Kilt in Class XII—Plain needle-work, including tailoring and dress-making—Master Tailor Blacklock secured second prize; Mrs. Blacklock for 3 dresses, Mrs. McConnell for a chemise, Miss Wright for a sampler and petticoat, and Miss Mitchell for a petticoat, also getting prizes.

In Lace-making and Fancy work, Class XIII—Private C. Brasenell took 5th prize for a Good Templar's Regalia, Pioneer Allen for the Regimental Colors, worked in wool, Miss Grant for a scarf and Miss Elliot for a pair of child's bootikins, being also successful.

In the time prize specially given to encourage the study of expedition, Pioneer Sergeant W. Maxwell took first prize for his Color-Sergeant's Stationery Box.

Next year the Exhibition is, we believe, to be held at Lahore.

Ecce Signum.

By Coylum.

—o—

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I MUST admit that the dear old Professor was a bore of the first water, and I could not help feeling a thrill of satisfaction when, with repeated expressions of regret, he apologized for not being able to put me up for the night in his chambers.

"You must come and dine with me this evening, though, Fred," cried the old gentleman. "Mind, I shall expect you at half past seven punctually." I accepted with much show of gratitude and returned to my hotel.

I was passing through Oxbridge on my way north early in June in the year 18—and had been told by my father on no account to forget to call on his old friend and school fellow Dr. Penge, Professor of Oriental languages at the University. I had frequently met the Doctor before, and though, as I have said, I found him a bore, I could not help liking him for his kind, simple, and honest character. Dear old fellow! he was a real enthusiast in philology. I do not believe that in all Europe the man existed more profoundly versed in Oriental languages and literature. I don't believe anyone ever heard him talk about anything else: at least I never did. You might start on any subject with him and in a few minutes by some unaccountable process you would find yourself listening to a lecture on the Dravidian dialects.

"In for an Arabian Night's Entertainment, I suppose," I said to myself with a sigh, as with much reluctance I left the comfortable smoking room of the hotel that evening. The day had been sultry, the weather looked threatening, and with the prospect of a drenching I did not feel any more willing to leave my quarters.

The Professor welcomed me with hearty cordiality: the dinner and the wines were unexceptionable and went far to reconcile me with a long, and to me, absolutely unintelligible harangue on the Hindoo Vedas.

Shortly before leaving I congratulated him on the result of the University Cricket match. I

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cannot conceive how he did it, but, by an apparently perfectly natural sequence of ideas, the Doctor's reply drifted into a discourse on Chaldean Astrology. With a feeling of weariness I could scarcely conceal, I sat and listened to the old gentleman. I think I must have dozed off for a few minutes, till suddenly pulling myself together I heared him say: "You see, Fred, Azrael was the angel of Death. It was a name held in awe by all the Semitic races. The four letters composing the name, A. Z. R. L. (for of course, as you are aware, the Orientals only use consonants in their writing, except "A" or "Aliph" initial, vowels being written as "points" occasionally, but more often left out altogether), were held to have great influence for evil when written on parchment, charms or amulets. It was thought unlucky even to mention the name of Azrael, the Destroyer of———"

Here, fortunately as I thought, a fit of coughing interrupted the learned Professor, and I seized the opportunity to rise and, in spite of his protestations as to the hour being still quite early, to bid him good night.

The kind old fellow helped me on with my coat (during which operation he told me the equivalent for "Good night" in Arabic, Syraic, Tamil, and Telugu) and we parted at the hall door with much cordiality.

I have said that the weather had looked threatening earlier in the evening. As I turned into the road big rain drops began to fall, and I heard a distant peal of thunder. I hurried home as fast as I could, but by the time I reached the hotel a thunder storm, which promised to be of unusual severity, had commenced. I went up to my bed room and changed my coat for a smoking jacket, meaning to have a pipe before going to bed. The lightning was vivid and almost incessant: the thunder rolled with deafening peals, while the rain descended in torrents. For some minutes I stood at my bed room window, watching the splendid and awe inspiring spectacle and then went down to the smoking room.

There was one occupant of the room, and only one. Standing at the window, looking out at the storm, was a pale, thin young man of about five and twenty, who turned round as I entered and bade me good evening.

"It is a wild night, sir," he said, "but nothing after all to what I have seen in India."

The young fellow had an agreeable expression of face, and a pleasant voice, though it was obvious that his rank in life was not a high one. I answered him courteously and strolling up to the window, we both stood looking out into the night.

My companion seemed to be a sociable sort of person, and, during a temporary lull in the storm, he gave me, unasked, many particulars about himself. It appeared that he was employed as a telegraph clerk in one of the East Indian railways; that he had been advised to go home to England on account of his health for a year at least; that he had just arrived; that his heart was weak owing to a protracted fever; that the Company had treated him with great kindness; that his friends lived in.....shire; and that he was looking forward with great joy to the meeting with his old parents on the morrow. I cannot say that I payed very close attention to all he said, but his remarks were at least as interesting to me as the Oriental dissertations of Dr. Penge. There was even something taking in the ingenuous prattle of the happy young fellow.

The storm recommenced: the lightning flashed more vividly than ever, while the noise of the thunder was such that I have never heard before or since. Suddenly my companion uttered an exclamation so abruptly that I looked at him in surprise, fancying that he was alarmed.

"That's curious, sir," he said, "it's the second time."

I looked at him enquiringly: he laughed lightly. "You see, sir, we telegraph folk work by a system of dots and dashes called the Morse code." I nodded to show that I understood. "Well, as I was looking just now, the lightning flashed just as if it were signalling A. Z. R. L. That was before you came in, and just now

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it did it again: A. Z. R. L. You can't make much of that unless it was a cypher code," he added as he looked at me. Something in the expression of my face must, I think, have struck him as singular, for the smile died out of his face as he looked.

"A. Z. R. L. Azrael, the angel of Death," the coincidence struck me so forcibly that I felt a sort of shock. "The destroyer of life! according to the Chaldean. Bah!" thought I to myself, impatient at my own folly, "what nonsense."

"Are you ill?" asked my companion, anxiously. Then a sort of smile of superiority came over his face. "Perhaps you feel timid in thunder storms, but this is nothing to what I...." A succession of flashes of blinding brightness interrupted him. "Good God," he exclaimed in agitated tones: "Again, A. Z. R. L."—— A crash of thunder drowned his voice. So appalling was the sound that I drew back from the window in real terror. I thought that the house had been struck, while the screams of a woman in the passage outside made me think my fear well grounded. My companion and I rushed to the door to find, however, that the cries were those of the daughter of the landlord, and were caused merely by terror at the violence of the storm. The sobbing girl was soothed and reassured, and the storm somewhat abating, I made my way to my room, undressed, and went to bed.

And then, being in bed, and, I suppose, asleep, though I always feel as if I had been awake all the time, I dreamed a dream, or saw a vision, the awful memory of which will never leave me.

As I lay on my back in bed, the room being dark, it seemed to me that quite gradually a strange, unearthly light filled the room. It seemed to me that the ceiling was gone and that I was gazing into the heavens which were covered with rolling clouds lit up as if by the flames of a burning city. It seemed to me, lying spell-bound with terror, that a dark and fearful form of giant size draped in flowing black garments, was hovering over me, and that as I gazed with parted lips and that awful, unspeakable terror that makes the heart of the dreamer stand still, the terrible figure raised its right arm and poised a huge spear as if to hurl it at me! I strove to pray for mercy, but my mind could frame no words, my lips could utter no sound. Slowly the awful figure raised its arm higher and higher, and.....Crash! the spear seemed to pass my head...I remember no more.

I woke next morning with a start, feeling jaded and tired. The sun was streaming brightly in the room. I heard voices talking earnestly in the passage, and with the curious sympathy which sometimes imparts knowledge without words, I felt that something unusual had happened. I hastily put on my clothes and went out into the passage. There was a crowd of the hotel servants standing at the door of the room next to mine. A chambermaid with a scared face was saying, "poor fellow, how terrible!"

"What is it?" I asked breathlessly, and without waiting for an answer, went to the open door of the room and looked in.

On the bed which was placed against the partition dividing his room from mine, in such a position that, as we lay, our heads could not have been much further apart than the thickness of the wall, lay the young man who had been my companion in the smoking room the night before.

There was no mistaking the look in his face. He was dead.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

"WHAT it believes it is "fit for the field."

That it is very gratified to hear it.

That it hopes that it is true.

That "B" Company has the football clock.

That they have been well up for it every football season.

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That they worked hard for it.

That its getting "bohut garm" down here.

That it doesn't take long to "work your ticket" in Mian Mir.

That it is half inclined to go in for it itself.

That it saw an amazing number of "K. O. S. B's." at the sports.

That it had no idea that there were so many in the station.

That on the Q. T. it doesn't believe there are.

That it won't give them up.

That the trews "took a trick."

That "B" Company took a fair number of the prizes.

That they took 12 firsts and 7 seconds

That "F" Company thoroughly deserved the Physical Drill Trophy.

That they were well trained for it.

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At the Fort.

———o———

ON Saturday, the 24th ultimo, the Detachment (aided by Sergeant Symcox, Bandsman Wilcox, and Privates Allcock and Dunmore, from Mian Mir) played a team of natives from the city and won rather easily by an innings and 75 runs.

The score was made up as follows:—

2nd Lieutenant	Stevenson	... ...	b.	23
Private	McColl	... ...	c.	0
,,	McArthur	... ...	c.	49
,,	McDonald	... ...	c.	4
,,	Alcock	... ...	b.	13
Bandsman	Wilcox	... ...	c.	0
Sergeant	Symcox	... ..	l. b. w.	1
Private	Skinner	... ...	c.	0
,,	Dunmore	... ...	b.	20
Corporal	Towers	... ...	b.	1
Private	McNairn not out	...		5
			Extras	6
				122

Allcock had the credit of taking five wickets, Sergeant Symcox three, while 2nd Lieutenant Stevenson and Bandsman Wilcox came next with two each.

* * * * * *

On the same date the Band paid a visit to the Fort, and had a friendly tussle at football with a scratch team from the Detachment. The game, which was not a particularly brilliant one, ended in favour of the Fort by two goals to one.

Band—*Goal*, Ogden; *Backs*, Brotherston and Watters; *Half-backs*, Smith, Lillywhite, and Cotton; *Forwards*, Lawson, Crawford, Hall, Wilcox, and Brown. Detachment—*Goal*, McAlister; *Backs*, McCormack and Hutchison, *Half-backs* Sanderson, Buchanan ("D" Company), and Mitchell; *Forwards*, Gilfether, Edington, ("F" Company) Towers, McDonald and Lavan.

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The game of hand-ball bids fair to displace all other forms of recreation here, the alley being well patronised in the cool hours of the morning and evening.

* * * * * *

An unfortunate, though not serious, accident resulting in a sprained knee, happened to Private McArthur while practising for the Regimental Sports. McArthur was entered for the high jump, and in the course of his training cleared five feet two and three-quarter inches. The accident is all the more to be regretted as the winner of the above event only cleared four feet eleven inches.

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The Theatre.

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The Regimental Theatre at Mian Mir is a great improvement on the one we left behind us at Dagshai and has been fully occupied during this month.

On the 22nd, 23rd and 24th instant the Sullivan-Ino-Combination paid us a visit, but owing to the weakness of their performances were no greatly patronized. Shortly afterwards on the 19th and 20th, the Maven Folly Company arrived and gave an exceptionally good entertainment, in fact one of the best we have yet seen in India. All the ladies of the troupe deserve mention, but perhaps the best items were "7th Royal Fusiliers" by Miss Millie Herbert, "Canoodle" by Miss Ada Maven, and the duet "Meet me Darling" by the Sisters Blair.

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Duncan.—At Dagshai, on the 18th ultimo, the wife of Sergeant Charles Duncan of a daughter.

———

DEATH.

Cole.—On the 25th ultimo, at the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, Private H. Cole, "B" Company, of enteric fever.

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That its getting "bohut garm" down here.

That it doesn't take long to "work your ticket" in Mian Mir.

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The Regimental Shot.

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UNDER rather unfavourable circumstances, shooting for the honor of being the best shot in the Battalion took place on the range on Monday, 12th instant, the two best shots from each company competing; 200, 300 and 500 yards were the distances fired at, the latter being in any military position.

The day was not a favourable one for accurate shooting, a strong and gusty wind blowing from the left front at times influencing the shooting considerably, especially at the longer range. Shooting commenced about ½ past 11 with 7 shots standing at 200 yards; in this Private Brown, "C" Company, headed the list with a score of 22 out of a possible 28, Lance-Corporal McNab, "E" Company, with 21 and Corporal Eddington "F" Company, with 20 running him very close. Rapid firing at 300 yards was next. Private Brown making 20 bringing his total up to 42; Piper Fowler, "D" Company, made 21 the highest score at this distance, giving him second place with a total of 39, and Corporal Watters, "C" Company, scored 19, with a total of 38. Lance-Sergeant Soutar, "B" Company, who made 18, being up to this time only fourth on the list.

Getting back to 500 yards the aspect of the shooting altered considerably. Private Brown only scored 20, his shots under the influence of the wind going high, and with one exception striking the right of the target; his total score thus stood at 62. Sergeant Soutar getting well down, scored 3 bulls in succession and finished with a score of 25, thus also totalling 62. Corporal Watters made 21 and secured third place with his score of 59.

Private Brown and Sergeant Soutar tieing, the former, owing to making the best score in the rapid firing, was adjudged the winner of the first prize, and the honor of being best shot in the Battalion for the musketry year of 1893-94, Sergeant Soutar being awarded second place.

The following are the scores of the first three:—

	200 yards.							Rapid, 500 yards.							
Pte. Brown "C" Coy.	4,	4,	2,	3,	3,	3,	3	22—20	2,	3,	2,	4,	2,	4,	3 20—62
L.Sgt. Soutar "B" ,,	2,	4,	2,	3,	3,	2.	3	19—18	3,	3,	4,	4,	4,	3,	4 25—62
Cpl. Watters "C" ,,	2,	4,	2,	2,	4,	2,	3	19—19	3,	4,	3,	4,	2,	3,	2 21—59

Private James Brown was born at Linlithgow on the 11th May 1869, and previous to enlisting followed the trade of a collier. He enlisted for the 93rd Highlanders at Stirling on the 4th of January 1888, and has consequently nearly completed his service with the colors. Since firing his recruit's course of musketry he has invariably been a marksman, and this year holds "C" Company's "gold guns" with a score of 194. He has attended both the Simla and Meerut Rifle Meetings, and has won several prizes at these gatherings.

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The Regimental Games.

The Annual Regimental Highland Games took place on Tuesday, the 20th instant, under the distinguished patronage of Major-General Viscount Frankfort, who took a great interest in the proceedings, officiating as Judge for the Physical Drill and Bayonet Exercise competitions and also for the "Thin Red Line Prize."

The whole of the arrangements were in the hands of a most competent committee which consisted of Major Campbell, Captain McKerrell Lieutenant McNeill, Lieutenant and Adjutant Moulton Barrett, Lieutenant Malcolm, and 2nd Lieutenant Maclean, assisted by a sub-committee composed of Sergeant-Major McRae, Color-Sergeants Wright, Abbott, McDonald and Gunn, Sergeants Middleby and Maxwell, Corporal Fletcher and Privates McInnes and Walker.

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Soon after noon-day the sports commenced with the 100 yards flat race, and from that time till quite dark the games continued; a few preliminary heats had been run on the previous day and the two best run in each of these heats (100 yards and hurdle races) competed in the final. Private Adcock, "B" Company, won the 100 yards with a few yards to spare, and he was also first in the quarter mile, whilst Private Lilly-white of the same Company was first in the long jump, covering 17 feet 10¾ inches, and first in the hurdle race. In the high jump, Lance-Corporal Auld, "A" Company, cleared 4 feet 11 inches. Private Dominic Kelly was an easy first in both half mile and mile races: in the former, which was open, beating Brady of the Seaforth Highlanders by several yards, thus turning the tables, as at Ferozepore Kelly ran third to Brady in the Seaforth's sports.

Private McInnes, "B" Company, took first prize for the heavy hammer which he threw 79 feet 8 inches; he put the light shot 36 feet 6 inches, and the heavy shot at the second attempt 30 feet 9 inches. In throwing the light hammer, McInnes not being well up in the turn preferred to throw standing, but there is no doubt should he elect to practice the turn he could improve upon his winning throw of 93 feet 10 inches. The heavy shot and light hammer were open competitions, Ross of the Seaforth's getting third in the former. Private Logie, "B" Company, was first in tossing the Caber. In the pipe playing competitions Lance-Corporal Robb, "G" Company, was first in Piobaireachd, and in Marches, Strathspeys and Reels (open), Piper McKay, "E" Company, secured first place; the Highland Fling and Reel dancing were also open, Piper Anderson, "A" Company, being first in both these events and also in the Sword Dance (Gillie Callum).

Lance-Corporal Reid, "F" Company, was first in the Gymnastic display on the Horizontal Bars; Lance-Corporal Forshaw, "H" Company, being best man at arms in Bayonet *v.* Bayonet. "H" Company men also took second and third prizes in the same competition Lance-Corporal Harper won the Corporals' race, and Sergeant Symcox won the Sergeants' race, the latter also coming in first in the Veterans' race.

The chief event of the day was certainly the Tug-of-war which was open for British troops, and for which the Seaforth Highlanders from Ferozepore had entered. The pull took place in the cool of the evening just before 6 o'clock and from the start our men showed their superiority over the 78th. Taking the strain our men soon let their weight be felt and a few seconds from the start had gained a foot or two on their opponents, taking matters very coolly they amidst much cheering eventually pulled the last man of the Seaforths over the line. Our team was a much more representative one than pulled at the Lahore District Assault-at-Arms in January last and consisted of the following:— 2nd Lieutenant Maclean, Sergeants Middleby and McCulloch, Corporal Fletcher, Privates McAllister, Walker, McInnes, Logie, Goldie and Brydone. The names of the Seaforth's team are not to hand, but the men appeared to be in excellent condition. Sergeant Master Tailor Blacklock coached our teams, whilst our opponents were looked after by Sergeant Clarke of the 78th.

The Physical Drill competition followed, and this was not finished till it was quite dark. "B" "E," "F" and "G" Companies having teams entered for it. The next morning, 21st instant, the bayonet exercise was gone through by the four competing teams, and the prize which consisted of a very handsome Challenge Shield presented by the Adjutant was awarded to "F" Company's team who without a doubt thoroughly deserved it. The "Thin Red Line" prize for the best dressed Highlander in review order given by the proprietors of the "Regimental News" was the last event, and after a most searching inspection, General Frankfort and Colonel Trotter going round the ranks several times, the prize was awarded to Private Williams, "D" Company, men from the same Company also getting second and third prizes.

After this the prizes of which a list follows were most kindly presented by Colonel Trotter,

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who congratulated the various winners upon their skill:—

Flat race, 100 yards: Private Adcock (1), Rs. 10; Private Kelly (2), Rs. 6; Lance-Corporal Harper (3), Rs. 4. Long Jump: Private Lillywhite (1), Rs. 7; Private McLaren (2), Rs. 5; Private Ker (3), Rs. 4. Boys' race (handicap 220 yards): Drummer Hollands (1), Rs. 6; Boy Johnston (2), Rs. 4; Boy Kerr (3), Rs. 2. Piobaireachd: Lance-Corporal Robb (1), Rs. 10; Piper McKay (2), Rs. 6; Acting Piper McColl (3). High Jump: Lance Corporal Auld (1), Rs. 7; Private Macgregor (2), Rs. 5; Lance-Corporal Fressanges (3), Rs. 3. Quarter mile flat race: Private Adcock (1), Rs. 10; Private Kelly (2), Rs. 6; Private McLaren (3), Rs. 4. Throwing Heavy Hammer (standing): Private McInnes (1), Rs. 10; Sergeant Middleby (2), Rs. 6; Private Logie (3), Rs. 4. Hop, Step and Jump: Private McLaren (1), Rs. 7; Private Kerr (2), Rs. 5; Private Lillywhite (3), Rs. 3. Three-legged race (100 yards): Privates Johnston and Lillywhite (1), Rs. 10; Lance-Corporal Harper and Private Kelly (2), Rs. 6; Privates Hill and Geegan (3), Rs. 4. Putting light shot (7 feet run) no follow: Private McInnes (1), Rs. 10; Lance-Corporal Reid (2), Rs. 6; Sergeant Middleby (3), Rs. 4. Hurdle race: Private Lillywhite (1), Rs. 10; Private Kerr (2), Rs. 6; Private Walker (3), Rs. 4. Corporals' race (220 yards): Lance-Corporal Harper (1), Rs. 10; Lance-Corporal Auld (2), Rs. 6; Lance-Corporal Forshaw (3), Rs. 4. Pipe playing, Marches, Strathspeys and Reels (open): Piper McKay (1), Rs. 10; Lance-Corporal Robb (2), Rs. 6; Piper Sutherland, 78th Highlanders (3), Rs. 4. Pipe playing for Acting Pipers: Acting Piper McLean (1); Acting Piper McColl (2), Acting Piper Brown (3). Tossing the Caber: Private Logie (1), Rs. 12; Private Brydone (2), Rs. 8; Private McKellar (3), Rs. 4. Putting heavy shot (7 feet run no follow open): Private McInnes (1), Rs. 15; Sergeant Middleby (2), Rs. 10; Private Ross, 78th Highlanders (3), Rs. 5. Juvenile race for boys under 12 years (handicap): George Mitchell (1), Rs. 4; Willie Rae (2), Rs. 3; Johnny McAvoy (3), Rs. 2. Juvenile race for girls: Poonah Grant (1), Rs. 4; Nelly Wright (2), Rs. 3; Dolly Mitchell (3), Rs. 2. Highland Fling (open): Piper Anderson (1), Rs. 10; Lance-Corporal McIntosh, 78th Highlanders (2), Rs. 6; Piper Lynch (3). Bayonet *v.* Bayonet: Lance-Corporal Forshaw (1), a silver watch Private Griffiths (2), Rs. 8; Private Hutchinson (3), Rs. 4. Sergeants' race: Sergeant Symcox (1); Sergeant Garrigan (2); Lance-Sergeant Watt (3). Gymnastic: Lance-Corporal Reid (1), Rs. 10; Private Griffiths (2), Rs. 5. Throwing the light hammer, 9 feet circle (open): Private McInnes (1), Rs. 15; Private Logie (2), Rs. 10, Sergeant Middleby (3), Rs. 5. Gillie Callum: Piper Anderson (1), Rs. 10; Lance-Corporal Robb (2), Rs. 6. Veterans' race for men over ten years' service: Sergeant Symcox (1), Rs. 10; Private McGovern (2), Rs. 6; Mr. Wilson (3), Rs. 4; Half-mile (open): Private Kelly (1), Rs. 15; Private Brady, 78th Highlanders (2), Rs. 10; Private Kenny (3), Rs. 5. Physical, Drill and Bayonet Exercise (squads of 24 men and N. C. O.) "F" Company (1). Adjutants' Challenge Shield and Rs. 24. Reel Dancing: Piper Anderson (1), Rs. 10; Acting Piper McLean (2), Rs. 6; Lance-Corporal McIntosh, 78th Highlanders (3). Tug-of-war (open to British Troops), 93rd Highlanders (1), Rs. 50. Mile race: Private Kelly (1), Rs. 15; Lance-Corporal Harper (2), Rs. 10; Private Kenny (3), Rs. 5 Obstacle race: Private Nicholson (1), Rs. 12; Private Lillywhite (2), Rs. 8; Private Slatter (3), Rs. 4. Native race for Native troops, quarter mile: Nank Singh, 20th Punjab Infantry (1), Rs. 7; Kaiser Singh, 34th Pioneers (2), Rs. 5; Sarja Singh, 34th Pioneers (3), Rs. 3; Kala Singh, 20th Punjab Infantry (4).

"Thin Red Line" prize for best dressed Highlander in review order: Private Williams (1), Rs. 10; Private Smith (2), Rs. 6; Private Maskell (3), Rs. 4. Consolation race: Private McAllister (1), Rs. 10; Private Walker (2), Rs. 6. Band race (Native) Meger Singh (1); Chindra Singh (2); Urjan Singh (3); Bood Singh (4). The Band of the 34th Pioneers was in attendance and discoursed an excellent selection of music.

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Football.

Inter-Company Football Tournament.

At the conclusion of the League matches, "B" and "C" Companies tied, and a final match to decide who should have possession of the football clock for 1893-94 was necessary.

The two companies therefore met on the evening of the 7th instant, when an excellent game resulted. "B" Company eventually proving the winners by two goals to one. The following is a detailed account:—

Punctually at 5-30 P.M., Sturgess kicked off for "C" Company, and it was at once seen that this would be a good match, both teams being very evenly matched and every player exerting himself to the utmost. Early in the game Duffin took up the ball to "C's" goal and attempted a shot, but the ball went bye, Gracie put the ball well up the field and "C's" forwards getting on to it and passing well took it up to their opponents' goal, but McKimm cleared, give and take play followed, and then "C" from a corner kick, remarkably well placed, rushed a goal amidst the shouts of their supporters. "B" forwards here pulled themselves together and Gracie was called upon to save twice, but he was always there when wanted and the score remained unaltered and at half time "C" Company led by 1 goal to nil.

After the interval "B" Company restarted the ball and the game became faster than ever, both teams doing all they knew to score, five minutes from re-start Denholm put in a slow shot which Gracie muffed badly and a goal was scored for "B" Company. Excitement now ran high and the ball travelled up and down as if possessed. "C's" forwards worked the ball well up and again securing a corner kick seemed to have a great chance of increasing their score, but, the ball going behind relieved the pressure.

Both teams were now playing their best and Duffin running the ball through the field and passing to Hutton the latter put in splendid shot which was almost impossible to stop and "B" Company scored their second point. "C" Company now tried hard to equalise, but their back division seemed rather weak and although their forwards passed well they could not succeed in altering the score, and when the whistle sounded for time, "B" Company were victorious by 2 goals to one. For the winners, Hutton Duffin and McKimm deserve special mention whilst Sturgess, Watters and Brown were conspicuous amongst the losers.

The teams were as under:

"B" COMPANY—*Goal*, Whitecross; *Backs*, McKimm, Kerr; *Half-backs*, Adcock, Lilly white, Singleton; *Forwards*, Hutton, Duffin, Denholm, Mullen, Glen.

"C" COMPANY—*Goal*, Grassie; *Backs*, Gray, Brown; *Half-backs*, Lessils, Johnston, Watters; *Forwards*; Mr. Malcolm, Sturgess, McArthur, Kelly, Dorrian.

93RD *vs.* 78TH.

This match took place at Ferozepore on the 8th instant, our team going there for the Seaforth's regimental sports. The game commenced at 5 P.M. Reid starting the ball for us against the sun and wind.

After a good bit of give and take play McCallum scored the first point for us; the ball was again started and after a short scrimmage, Sturgess scored another point and before half time was called the same player was fortunate enough to get the ball past the Seaforths' custodian for a second time; when the whistle blew we led by three goals to love.

In the second half both teams played rather slack; once or twice however the Seaforths tried to score but our back division was too strong for them and the score remained unaltered at the call of time. Score 93rd 3 goals; 78th nil.

"93RD" TEAM—*Goal*, Grassie; *Backs*, Watson, Gordon; *Half-backs*, McKimm, McIntosh, Singleton; *Forwards*, Wilkie, Duffin, Reid, Sturgess, McCallum.

"78TH"—*Goal*, McKay, *Backs*, Davis, Evans; *Half-backs*, Still, McGregor, Hendry; *Forwards*, Brady, Clarke, Dixon, Meiklejohn, Dunn.

Cricket.

"A" *Company* v. "B" *Company*.—Played on the 5th instant, and resulted in a win for "A" Company by 69 runs on the first innings. In the second innings of "B" Company Mr. Patten scored 42, Corporal Chittenden being not out with 48 to his credit.

Scores.—"B" Company 69, and 104 for four wickets, "A" Company 138.

"C" *Company* v. "D" *Company*.—Played on the 5th instant. "D" Company winning by 21 runs.

Scores.—"C" Company: Sheppard, 0, 8; Brown, 18, 4; Sergeant Stewart, 0, 0; Lance-Corporal Kettles, 1, 0; Captain Mackenzie, 0, 0; Lieut. Malcolm, 4, 13; Mahoney, 0, 0; Docherty 3, not out 1; Ingles, 9, 1; Cowan, not out 3, 3; Strugess, 1, 2; extras, 4, 1; totals 43, 33.

"D" Company; Allan, 0, 0; Downey, 8, 4; Lance-Corporal Smith, 6, 26; Corporal Clare, 3, 0; Sewell, 16, 0; Taylor, 2, 4; McKenzie, 4, not out, 7; Chapman, 0, 0; James, 0, 2; Burke, not out, 3, 0; 2nd-Lieut. Johnston Stewart, 0, 2; extras, 3, 0; totals, 46, 51.

"E" *Company* v. "F" *Company*.—Played on the 8th instant when "F" Company won by 9 runs.

Scores.—"E" Company: Gosling, 4; Morton, 5; Groves, 20; Lance-Corporal Fressanges, 14; Petrie, 2; Lance-Corporal Fawcett, 21; Jacks, 13; Prendergast, 2; Birkenshaw, 0; Lance-Sergeant Mackie, 5; Hill not out, 0; extras 12; total 98.

"F" Company: McLaren, 5; Wilson, 1; Kay, 28; Brockwell, 10; Webster, 17; Hunt, 18; Charteris, 1; Walls, 11; McWilliams, 8; Adams, not out, 0; Amos, 0; extras, 8; total, 107.

"A" *Company* v. "C" *Company*.—Played on the 7th instant. "A" winning by 65 runs.

Scores.—"A" Company: Sergeant Symcox, 17; McArthur, 4; Wilcox, 11; Lieut. Stevenson, 39; Dunmore, 0; Alcock, 38; Skinner, 0; McDonald, 0; Corporal Towers, 5; Johnston, 3; 2nd Lieut. Johnston Stewart, not out, 0; extras, 11; total 128.

"C" Company: Johnston, 1; Brown, 15; Sergeant Stewart, 7 Lance-Corporal Kettles

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1; Baker, 0; Sheppard, 1; Inglis, 17; Docherty, 15; Mahoney, 0; Hamilton, 0; Campbell not out, 4; extras, 2; total 63.

"*B*" *Company* v. "*D*" *Company*.—Played on the instant. "D" Company proving victorious.

Scores.—"B" Company; Lance-Sergeant Stonor, 5; Lance-Corporal Crichton, 4; Lieut. Patten, 3; Corporal Chittenden, 2; Milne, 18; Partridge, 4; Brindley, 0; Brand, 0; Newall, 4; Ewing, 0; Whitecross, not out, 1; extras, 6; total, 47.

"D" Company; Lance-Corporal Smith, 12, Downey, 0; Corporal Clare, 0; Jewell, 0; Allen, not out, 14; Burke, 2; Taylor, 2, Mackenzie, 0; James, 0; Grozier, 6; Chapman, 0; extras, 2; total, 52.

"*F*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*.—This match resulted in a draw, but "H" Company claimed a protest which was given in their favour, and the match will be played again.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*D*" *Company*.—Resulted after a close game in a win for "D" by one run.

Scores "*A*" *Company*.—McArthur, 0, 7; Lieut. Stevenson, 1, 13; Alcock, 7, 9; Sergeant Symcox, 7, 3; Dunmore, 0, 0; McDonald, 14, 0; Corporal Towers, 0, 0; McCall, 1, 1; Roye, not out, 1, not out, 6; extras, 6, 5; totals, 41, 48.

"D" Company, Downey, 4, 4; McKenzie, 4, 0; Lance Corporal Smith, 2, 6; Corporal Clare, 6, 7; Allen, 0, 11; Brown, 6, 11; Sewell, 0, 11; Stevenson, 0, 0; Taylor, 0, 0; Gordon, 3, 5; Burke, not out, 0, not out 0; extras, 0, 10; total 25, 65.

"*E*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*.—This match resulted in a win for "E" Company by 90 runs.

Scores.—"E" Company; Lance-Corporal Fawcett, 9, 11; Groves, 6, 1; Gosling, 29, 1; Ogden, 3, not out, 7; Lance-Corporal Fressanges, 3, 16; Sergeant Peggie, 14, 17; Jacks, 2, 19; Hill, 3, 11; Lance-Corporal Rastall, 5, 8; Prendergast, 0, 1; Birkenshaw, 7, not out, 2; extras, 7, 0; totals, 88, 88.

"H" Company; Sergeant Jackson, 3, 6; Shipman, 0, not out, 10; Sergeant Smallwood, 1, 1; Hunter, 2, 0; Captain Davidson, 9, 21 Devereux, 0, 0; Keeble, 4, 17; Lance-Corporal Holden, not out, 5, 6; Glossop, 3, 0; 2nd Lieut. Tweedie, 5, 1; extras, 8, 4; totals, 39, 47.

"*D*" *Company* v. "*E*" *Company*.—Played on the 12th instant. "E" Company winning by 6 runs.

Scores.—"D" Company; Downie, 12, 8; McKenzie, 1, 3; Lance-Corporal Smith, 13, 14; Corporal Clare, 4, 1; 2nd Lieut. McDonald, 3, 2; Sewell, 27, 0; Allen, 1, 0; Taylor, not out, 13, 7; Burgess, 0, not out, 0; Gordon, 3, 2; Stevenson, 7, 2; extras, 20, 2; totals, 104, 41.

"E" Company, Gosling, 20, 9; Jacks, 7, 8; Lance-Corporal Fressanges, 4, 0; Sergeant Peggie 0, 0; Groves, 0, 15; Lance-Corporal Fawcett, 3, 6; Ogden, 13, 8; Lance-Corporal Rastall, 7, 8; Pendergast, 12, not out, 9; Hill, 0, 0; Birkenshaw, not out 0, 15; extras, 4, 3; totals, 70, 81.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*.—"F" Company won this match by an innings and 54 runs.

Scores.—"F" Company; Webster 6; Charteris, 0; Kay, 5; McLaren, 5; Brockwell, 9; Adamson, 1; Wilson, 4; Walls, 7; Hunt, 6; Kranz, not out, 24; Macgregor, 33; extras, 4; total 104.

"A" Company; Lieut. Stevenson, 6; Wilcox, 2, 0; McArthur, 1, 3; Skinner, 0, 0, McDonald, 2, 0; Alcock, 14, 0; McCall, 0, 0; Sergeant Symcox, 0, 0; Dunmore, 3, 1; Royle, not out, 3, 0; Wardrop, 2, 5; extras, 5, 3: totals, 38, 12.

"*F*" *Company* v. "*B*" *Company*.—Played on the 15th instant, and after a most exciting game resulted in a win for the right half battalion Company.

Scores.—"B" Company; Lance-Sergeant Stonor, 1, 9; Milne, 22, 1; Corporal Chittenden, 11, 3; Corporal Miller, 1, 5; Partridge 1, 0 Lance Corporal Crichton, 3, 6; Singleton, not out, 12; 3; Brindley, 1, 1; Whitecross, 2, 3; Lillywhite, 1, not out, 5; Russell, 2, 2; extras, 5, 11; totals, 64, 49.

"F" Company; Charteris, 20, 4; Webster 3, 2; Kay, 0, not out, 1; McLaren, 5, 7; Brockwell, 10, 3; Wilson, 4, 1; Adamson, not out, 17, 0; Kranz, 4, 2; Walls, 0, 1; Hunt, 0, 1; Macgregor, 0, 14; extras, 5, 3 totals, 68, 38.

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"*B*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*.—The former won by an inning and 12 runs, this was the only time that "G" Company put a team in the field.

Scores.—"B" Company; Milne, 0; Lance-Sergeant Stonor, 10; Corporal Chittenden, 18; Brindley, 2; Lance-Corporal Crichton, 1; Singleton 6; Russell, 0; Corporal Millar, not out, 10; Whitecross, 0; Partridge, 21; Nicholson, 0; extras, 10; total, 78.

"G" Company; Carroll, 0, 0; Hondmarsh, 0, 4; Corporal Hynch, 3, 4; Giles, 0, 4; Short, 9, 0, McKay, 3, 6; Regan, 0, 1; Doyle 5, 20, Wicks, not out, 3, not out, 2; Ault, 0, 0; Liddle; 0, 0; extras, 1, 1; totals 24, 42.

"*D*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*.—Won by the latter by 51 runs.

Scores.—"D" Company; Lance-Corporal Smith, 0; McKenzie, 10; Downie, 0; Corporal Clare, 0; Brown, 2; Sewell, 0; Allen, 0; Taylor, not out, 17; Gordon, 4; Stevenson, 3; Burke, 0; extras, 6; total, 42.

"F" Company; Wilson, 18; Charteris, 13; McLaren, 17; Brockwell, 4; Webster, 5; Kranz; 0; Adamson, 7; Hunt, 0; McWilliams, 17; Walls, not out, 4; Macgregor, 0; extras 8; total 93.

———:o:———

Duty and Obedience. A Moffat Story

—:o:—

IT was a snow-storm—a night of wild drift—in mid-winter; nothing like it for years. The mail from Dumfries was late, and the towns-people of Moffat had gathered at the inn waiting for it.

Up it came. They crowded round McGeorge, the guard, entreating him not to proceed: "At Tweedshaws it'll be awful." "They" (meaning the post office authorities) "blamed me once, they will never blame me again." Saddling the two strongest horses, he and the driver mounted, and took their way into the night, stumbling dumbly at the street. The driver returned, having, at the Beef-tub—a wild hollow in the hills, five miles out of Moffat—given it up in despair, and in time, McGeorge plunging on and not to be spoken to. The riderless horse came back at midnight! Next morning at daybreak, the wind hushed, the whole country silent and white—a shepherd saw on the heights at Tweedshaws something bright like a flame. He made his way to it. It was the morning sun shining on the brass plate of the post bags—hung up on a bit of paling—and out of the snow stretched a hand as if pointing to the bags: McGeorge was dead, and, as the shepherd said "we a kind o' a pleasure on his face."

———

Privates Kerr and Learmont have been selected to proceed to the Convalescent Depôt at Dalhousie.

———:o:———

Our Contemporaries.

—o—

We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following:—

"The Soldier."

"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).

"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).

"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.).

"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).

"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).

"The XXX" (1st E. Lancashire Regiment).

"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).

"The 5 and 9, Lillywhites Gazette" (2nd E. Lancashire Regiment).

"The 79th News" (Cameron Highlanders).

"I'm Ninety-five" (2nd Derbyshire Regiment).

"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).

"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).

"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).

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Yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to aknowledge with many thanks the following subscription for the year ending December 1894:—

J. Wilton Gonsalves, Esq., Calcutta.

———:o:———

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—o—

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Officers and others not connected with the Regiment.	Rs. 3 per annum		

Nota Bene.

—o—

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any item of news, they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to The Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

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Cheques, Money Orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," Lance-Sergeant W. G. Stonor, to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

———:o:———

Company Agents.

—o—

"A" Company—Private Watson.
"B" Company—Private Cassels.
"C" Company—Corporal Miller.
"D" Company—Lance-Corporal Rankin.
"E" Company—Lance-Corporal Rastall.
"F" Company—Lance-Corporal Baldwin.
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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 5.—Vol. I. DALHOUSIE,—MAY 31st, 1894. Price, 2 Annas.

Our Camp on Tikka Spur.

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SKIRLS

THE following is taken from the *Glasgow Evening Times*, dated Saturday, 24th March 1894 :—

"John Stirrat, Captain of the Grangemouth Football Club, is a right back who would not disgrace the best Club in the country, or in the words of the Secretary of Aston Villa, they only require him to complete the best team in the country. Stirrat learned his football in Renfrew. Enlisting in the Cameron Highlanders, he soon secured his place in their team, and ended his army career by assisting his team to win the Army Cup in 1890-91. He left the army in 1891, and settled down in Grangemouth, for which Club he has played since. The Stirlingshire Selecting Five recognised his ability by selecting him to play against Fifeshire last season, and against Forfarshire to-day, for each occasion he was selected unanimously besides being honoured with the captaincy."

* * * * *

To all who have any knowledge of Army football of the past few years the errors in the above cutting are obvious.

* * * * *

Stirrat served in "B" Company of this Battalion, his regimental number being 1984, and *not* in the Cameron Highlanders, who never won the Army Cup. Again Stirrat assisted our team in winning the Army Cup in 1888-89, not in 1890-91; but he played in the final at Kensington Oval in 1890-91 when the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards defeated us by two goals to *nil*.

Some native pipers belonging to No. 7 Mountain Battery and also some belonging to the 27th Punjab Infantry have been attached to the Battalion for the purpose of undergoing tuition at the hands of Pipe Major Ferguson. This is the second time that the Pipe Major has had native pipers for instruction, as last summer some belonging to the Raja of Kapurthala's Imperial Service Infantry were attached to the Battalion at Dagshai, and before leaving became very fair exponents of the art of pipe-playing.

* * * * *

Although there is very little space available, "A" Company have managed to again start the Dancing Club, the school room having been secured for that purpose; Tuesdays are the practice nights, whilst on Saturday evenings a portion of the Band is present, together with a number of the fair sex.

* * * * *

On Wednesday evenings the Sergeants' Mess is also the scene of much gaiety, as the usual weekly practice dances held by the Sergeants take place on these nights. In the absence of Sergeant Symcox with the wing at Mian Mir, Color-Sergeant Gunn is answerable for the management and for all the excellent arrangements that are made.

* * * * *

The Inspector-General of Gymnasia is very well pleased with his inspection held on the 9th March, as the subjoined report by him will show :—

"The Inspector is of opinion that the instructors were well up in their work, and that Captains McKerrell and Davidson are well qualified to bring the Battalion to a front place in the use of arms and physical training. The Inspector is further of opinion that the general physique of the men is very good, and that in another year the regiment should present a very fine appearance."

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The Band and Pipes have plenty to do, as they are now playing out three times a week; Mondays and Saturdays on the Tennis Court, where the officers are at home, and Friday nights at the "Bull's Head Hotel" where the Mess is established, Fridays being "guest nights."

* * * * *

The very sad death, after a short illness, of Sergeant Grant occurred on the 27th ultimo, when the following Battalion order respecting the deceased was issued:—

"For several years Sergeant Grant has honestly and conscientiously performed his duties of Canteen Sergeant, and it is chiefly owing to his devotion to his duty that he induced the illness which has deprived the Battalion of a good and zealous non-commissioned officer."

The deceased leaves a wife and children to mourn his loss.

* * * * *

Lieutenant H. C. MacDonald has gone on leave of absence to Australia for 107 days.

* * * * *

Our Sergeants played the Depôt Sergeants at cricket on the 3rd instant and won by an innings and 5 runs.

* * * * *

Color-Sergeant Watters who joined the Depôt at Stirling in 1890, and who since 1891 has been Sergeant Instructor of the Falkirk Volunteer companies has just been appointed Sergeant-Major of our 4th Volunteer Battalion, whose head-quarters are at Stirling. Sergeant-Major Watters joined the 56th Brigade Depôt at Aberdeen in 1878, was posted to this Battalion, and became Color-Sergeant of "D" Company, which Company he left to join the Depôt four years ago.

* * * * *

The first Company to complete its annual course of musketry on the hills is "D" Company who finished firing on the 5th instant. Private Maddox is the best shot in the Company and consequently will wear the "Company guns" for the ensuing 12 months; the ranges are by no means good and companies firing on them, in comparison with Mian Mir, are severely handicapped.

* * * * *

The long lost draft has at last arrived on the hills, coming in by parties on the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th instants. The draft which came out on board the P. & O. S. S. *Japan*, consisted of Corporal Richmond and 29 men under the command of Lieutenant H. P. Gordon.

* * * * *

Second Lieutenant H. G. Newall has been granted a Gymastic certificate.

* * * * *

A roll call parade in walking out dress took place on the polo ground on the 7th instant at 6 o'clock on the evening. The men made their way to and from the place of assembly independently, and after being dismissed witnessed a football match between teams from the detachments of the Border Regiment and Seaforth Highlanders stationed on Mankote Hill. The 78th after a rather one-sided match secured an easy victory by 9 goals to *nil*.

* * * * *

Lieutenant H. P. Gordon joined head-quarters on the 7th instant, being posted to "B" Company.

* * * * *

On the 9th instant a cricket match between our eleven and a team from Mankote Camp took place on the polo ground, resulting in a win for the latter by 62 runs.

* * * * *

Lieutenant McNeill, who, together with Captain Mackenzie is located at Chanda, in the Central Provinces, has succeeded in bagging another tigress, 8 feet 6¾ inches in length; this makes the third which has fallen to his and Captain Mackenzie's rifles, the other two, a tiger and tigress, measuring 9 feet 3 inches and 8 feet 4 inches respectively.

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Sergeant Smith accompanied by some of the Regimental Signallers proceeded on Wednesday, the 9th instant, to Diankund, about 7 miles on the road to Kajiar, for the purpose of holding communication with "A" Company who were under canvas at that place going through Military training. Some very good practice in long distance signalling, with both heliograph and flags was obtained.

* * * * *

About 6 o'clock in the evening of Saturday the 12th instant to the strains of "The Campbells are Coming" and "Scotland the Brave," "A" Company returned to Head-quarters after having been out for four days on the Rajah of Chamba's territory at Kajiar.

* * * * *

A new pattern great coat for infantry is being submitted for approval to Commanding Officers by the Pimlico authorities. The coat has a high collar, a plait and strap at the back which will make a "pull in" when wearing a belt over it unnecessary, and is altogether a great improvement upon the great coat at present worn by infantry men.

* * * * *

The heavy showers of hail and rain accompanied by thunder, wind and vivid lightning which have taken place during the last few days proclaim the fact that the *Chota Bursat* or little monsoon has broken over Dalhousie. The effect of the high wind has been very disastrous to several of the tent roofs, many being rent with its violence.

* * * * *

Quoiting is again becoming a popular recreation in the Battalion as good clay pitches are again obtainable, and some of the best players are settling down steadily to practice.

On the 17th instant the return Cricket Match between the Depôt and our Sergeants took place, the result in this instance being reversed, the Depôt Sergeants winning by 25 runs on the first innings.

* * * * *

In anticipation of their departure for Aldershot, the Warrant Officers, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants of our 1st Battalion held a farewell smoking concert in the old Armoury of Edinburgh Castle on the night of the 15th ultimo. Sergeant Major Williamson presided, about 300 guests being present. The Edinburgh Football Clubs were well represented whilst members of the Blackburn Rovers and Sunderland Teams were present.

* * * * *

Our acting Adjutant met with a rather serious accident on Thursday, the 17th instant, whilst "B" Company were at Musketry. Proceeding from the firing point to the butts his foot slipped and he was precipitated down the khud a considerable distance, his head being badly cut by the fall whilst his right arm was also damaged. Captain Robinson however procured some bandages for his hurts, and superintended the whole of the musketry practice of his Company before going to his quarters.

* * * * *

Colonel Trotter has been absent for 10 days on a shooting trip in Chamba where the Rajah showed him and his party much hospitality, placing the Residency, a large and commodious English built house, at his disposal. The Colonel and Captain Cameron also spent some days at Gudda, about 7 miles from Chamba and some 5,000 or 6,000 feet above the valley of the Ravi where, in the Rajah's preserves, they obtained excellent sport among the grouse, though, owing to the precipitous nature of the ground, a good many were lost. During this week Sergeant Stewart and Mr. Annesley, 18th Hussars, visited Chamba; the former who experienced

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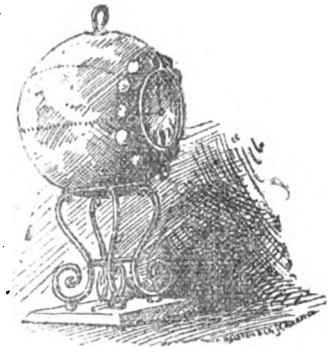
the full force of the gale on the 12th while in camp among the mountains, dined with Colonel Trotter at the Residency on Whit Sunday, and the other accompanied the Colonel's party to Gudda. On the march out to Chamba the Commanding Officer halted for some hours at Kajiar and inspected the work done by "A" Company who were encamped there for the conclusion of their Military training.

* * * * *

There is no foundation in the report that Major-General Viscount Frankfort has obtained command of one of the new Army Corps. He, with others, is in the running for one, but nothing will probably be known before autumn. It will be a misfortune for the Ninety-third when this able and popular officer vacates the command of the Lahore District.

There was a young girl of Terah,
Whose station was high! Oh, so fah!
From the Sergeants and "swods"
Whom she looked on as dogs,
Yet, a Corporal had married her mah.
Moral.—"Should auld acquaintance be forgot?"

Two ploughmen visiting Edinburgh during the exhibition of '85, entered one of those old fashioned Scotch eating houses and proceeded to tackle some "tuppeny pies," pretty solid eating they were too. After they had each demolished some half-a-dozen, one turned to the other and asked him how he liked them. "Mon," he replied, "I like them awful' weel, I think I'll just make a denner o' them!"



The Football Clock.

—:o:—

OF the subject of our illustration but little is known in the battalion, even among the keenest sportsmen, with the exception that it is the most highly coveted trophy, that it is played for annually by the various companies, that its possession confers everlasting glory on, not only the team, but also on the company to which it belongs, and that the winning team with the company officers—looking very proud and happy at having the "Clock" as a centre piece—are usually immortalised by means of the photographer's art; whilst the remaining seven teams console themselves with the thought that they each and every one only lost it by a fluke and that next year will show who ought to have won it; beyond this, very little of its history is known.

The football clock was presented to the battalion by Lieutenant-Colonel Mills in the early part of the football season 1888-89, to be competed for by the various companies, and for the special purpose of encouraging company football; for previously to this inter-company matches were almost unknown, although the

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battalion had a team of which it was justly proud, and which played with consistent success in various parts of Ireland, and ranked amongst the best teams in the Army. The "general idea"—a thoroughly military phrase—of inter-company matches was to bring out and encourage all who could and would play football, as it was felt that the short service system must eventually rob the battalion team of some of its players and it was necessary to have some men of tried worth to take their places, if the battalion wished to sustain its high reputation for football.

Captain Urmston and Mr. Tweedie were responsible for the design of the clock and fully justified the confidence placed in them; the trophy taking the shape of a clock, let into a football cover, and having several brass studs round its face on which to inscribe the letters of the winning companies and dates of the matches.

During the first two years of the clock's existence the matches were playedon the—to use a home-made phrase as I am ignorant of the technical term—"knocking out" system, that is to say, if a team got beaten in one match it was out of the hunt, and for the final of 1888-89 "C" and "F" Companies were left in, the latter winning by 5 goals to 2; for 1889-90 the final lay between "H" and "A" Companies and the former proved victorious by 2 goals to 1.

However "the scene," or rather the scheme, was changed" for 1890-91, as then the *league* system was introduced which brought out much better football and naturally caused far more excitement; for this season "A" Company was declared the winner with 6 wins and 1 draw, whilst "F" Company ran a good second with 5 wins, 1 draw and 1 defeat.

For the season of 1891-92 the matches had to be decided in our new station Umballa, as on 26th November 1891 we embarked on H. M. S. *Malabar* for India, and here for the first time of the clock's existence first eleven players were allowed to compete for their companies, as it was thought that that would be the only way to keep the Regimental Team in practice,——the Murray Cup and the Durand Football Tournament then not being thought of. For this season "C" Company proved themselves the victors, whilst "A" Company were second.

Regarding the season 1892-93, the result was delayed considerably owing to "F" Company being on detachment duty at Dagshai, however on the arrival of the battalion at the hills "F" Company played their respective ties and finally the issue lay between "F" and "G" Companies, the latter being so confident that they had the team photographed long ere they had won the clock. However the fight was not yet over.

In the first match "F" Company proved victorious by 2 goals to 1, but "G" Company putting in a protest and gaining it, the match had to be replayed; this match, to prove right from wrong, resulted in a tie, so a third match was decided on and on its being played "G" Company secured the verdict.

For the present year's tournament (1893-94) the result is too fresh in all our readers' minds to require much reviewing, it is sufficient to say that the two best teams were left to fight it out. "C" Company was strong in its forwards but weak in its backs; "B" Company had good forwards and was decidedly strong in its back division, in fact it is not too much to say that Lance-Corporal McKimm had a great deal to do in their winning the match, for they did win it, and so the scores on the Football Clock stand—

1888-89	... ...	"F" Company.
1889-90	... ...	"H" ,,
1890-91	... ...	"A" ,,
1891-92	... ...	"C" ,,
1892-93	... ...	"G" ,,
1893-94	... ...	"B" ,,

MAC.

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Dalhousie.

—o—

THINKING some short description of our present head-quarters might be of some interest to a few readers of *The Thin Red Line*, I take up my pen—a very simple task by the way—and—now comes the rub.

Dalhousie is situated on the Himalayas some 7,000 feet above sea level, and is according to the best authorities one of the most healthy stations in India; it is impossible to give the exact altitude, but let it suffice that the Post Office. Dalhousie, is situated 6,700 feet above sea level.

Our camp, which is pitched on a hill called Tikka spur, lies about 400 feet lower down and owing to the nature of the ground, is very scattered.

In one of the sketches our artist has depicted the tents of "A" and "B" Companies, and in the other he has given us the guard-room, where I can assure any of the more boisterous and unruly spirits at Mian Mir that should they come up here next year and court its friendly shelter, they will find ample accommodation—they can take my word for it.

At the right end of the guard-room is a large room which is occupied by the band and to left of it and lying back a little is another bungalow in which are the "offices," *i. e.*, Orderly-room, Quarter Master's Office and Pay Office; whilst still further to the left and considerably higher up is another bungalow containing two rooms, one of which is the school-room by day and ball-room by night, and the other unites the grocery bar, coffee shop, library, theatre, recreation room, and printing office, all in one; *that* is decidedly a useful room.

Those three are the only bungalows, with the exception of the Sergeant's Mess and the married quarters, regarding which I cannot safely speak, as not being a Sergeant, I know nothing of the former, and being unyoked in the bonds of holy matrimony, I am equally ignorant of the latter, but I believe, although small, they are very comfortable.

The canteen is composed of three E. P. tents and commodious as that may sound, I have seen its holding capabilities, at times, tested to the uttermost. Whilst talking of the canteen it may not be out of place to mention that defaulters indulge in their daily constitutional (with the pack) on the small space of ground in front of the orderly room—30 paces and "bout turn."

"C" and "D" Companies are pitched on "Sonanatalla" hill, which is otherwise sacred to the Sergeant's Mess and married quarters.

The Officers' Mess is situated half way up the hill to Dalhousie, whilst the polo ground lies some few thousand feet down the khud, however there are some excellent tennis and racquet courts, and in connection with the latter, Captain S. L. Robinson is most energetically forming a club.

This short account must interest our readers for the present, and next month I will do my best to continue the description of Dalhousie dealing as far as possible with the subjects of our artist's pen.

(To be continued.)

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With "A" Company to the Kajiar Plain.

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AT 9-15 A.M. on Wednesday, the 9th instant, "A" Company, under Major J. H. Campbell, left Tikka spur for Kajiar, for four days' military training. No. 4 Section led the way, followed in succession by Sections 3, 2 and 1, an interval of 100 yards being observed between sections, as the day was close and sultry, and the roads rather dusty.

The road, which led over Upper Bakrotah, was mostly uphill for the first six miles, the remainder of the march being on the downward grade. A halt was called about midway between Dalhousie and their destination where two or three signallers, who accompanied Major Campbell's party, were posted on the summit of a hill to keep up communication between the company and head-quarters.

The paths, after leaving the half-way house being narrrow, necessitated marching in single file. After a march of five hours camp was reached, and a party of coolies in the service of the Rajah of Chamba drew the tents (which were of the iascar pal pattern) out of stores, and also pitched them. The camp was situated in a hollow, dignified by the name of the Kajiar plain (which also served the purpose of a race course), and formed a most picturesque sight, being completely wooded in by stately deodar trees. Dinner, consisting of roast meat, potatoes, and rice and milk, was served up immediately on arrival and thoroughly enjoyed. The midday meal over, a pint of beer was issued to each man desirous of obtaining it. A football was then brought out, and "shoot-for-goal" indulged in till dusk. A further issue of a quart of beer was served at 7 P.M., the "first post" sounding at 8 P.M., followed by "tattoo" at 8-30 P.M., and "lights out" five minutes later. Thursday was observed as a holiday, but shortly after dark the "alarm" sounded. "A" Company represented a rear guard, and was to keep the enemy, which was supposed to be coming from the direction of Chamba with the intentions of attacking Dalhousie, engaged, while the main body fell back on Dalhousie. The rear guard having successfully accomplished its mission retired, and was dismissed. Dancing, to the playing of Piper Anderson and Private Rodgers, was kept up till the post. Major and Mrs. J. D. Fetherstonhaugh visited the camp, as did also Captain K. B. Cameron. On Friday Colonel P. D. Trotter inspected the company, and expressed himself highly satisfied with the manner in which the general work had been done, but specially commented upon the bridging. Rain fell heavily, and continued during the greater part of the night. Saturday, the last day of their stay, broke threatening, and from 7-30 A.M till 10 A.M. a heavy rain fell. At 1-30 P.M. the company fell in, and started on its homeward journey, the distance of 14 miles, considering the broken state of the ground, being covered in the good time of 4 hours, head-quarters being reached at 5-30 P.M.

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The Draft.

—o—

WE left Edinburgh Castle about half-past nine on the 8th March, the Band and Pipes playing us to the Caledonian Railway Station, a large crowd, as is usual with drafts, following us; here we entrained for St. Pancras which, after an uneventful journey, most of us that could indulging in sleep, we reached about 7 o'clock next morning.

Arrived at St. Pancras we had breakfast at the refreshment bar, a wait of two hours or so becoming necessary before busses could be obtained to take us to the Royal Albert Docks; we, however, reached there about mid-day and were marched on board the P. & O. *S. S. Japan*. Drafts of several regiments were to journey with us, for besides ourselves, there were R. A., 11th Hussars, Somerset Light Infantry, and Scots Fusiliers, in all about 300 men, with 6 officers. We left the Docks about 3-30 P.M., and steamed steadily down the Thames, the pilot leaving us the following morning off the Isle of Wight.

Capital weather was experienced the whole of the voyage; on the 11th and 12th March we experienced a slight swell in the Bay of Biscay, but by the time the "Rock" was sighted the sea was as smooth as could be wished. Whilst in the "Bay" a most unfortunate accident occurred, the boatswain having the misfortune to break his leg falling over the steering gear.

Gibraltar was passed about mid-day on the 14th and on the 19th the snow-clad hills of the Island of Candia were sighted and Port Said, our first calling station, was reached on the morning of the 21st. Here we took in the usual supply of coal and water, and generally replenished our provisions. We were not allowed on shore, but as the place had not a very inviting aspect little apparently was lost, whilst bumboats coming alongside with fruit and cigarettes all who wished, and who had the needful, had an opportunity of purchasing these commodities.

The electric light was used passing down the canal which took about 9 hours, and after stopping a short time at Port Suez we proceeded on our way through the Red Sea, ships' white helmets being here issued out to us. The bare rock of Aden was reached on the 27th when the English Mail was received; here was the battle ship *Centurion* which had reached Aden a day previous *en route* for the China Squadron. About two days before reaching Bombay a concert was arranged on board which went off capitally, several excellent songs being sung, whilst Privates Stevenson, Hennie, Donnelly and Duncan danced a Highland fling, the music in the absence of a piper being supplied by the ship's doctor on a piano. A comic sketch, entitled the "Coloured Dwarf," concluded the entertainment. Some lascars of the crew also had a "gaff" on their own account, the native lamp trimmer using his knife rather freely and placing a couple of his comrades *hors de combat* for which little attention he was promptly put in irons. We arrived at Bombay on the 2nd April where we exchanged our helmets, and had water bottles issued to us; disembarkation taking place about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, after which we received our first meal in India in the shape of tea at the Depôt. The *Euphrates* was in harbour here ready to sail with the time-expired men. We travelled by train all night and reached Deolali early next morning; here we stopped for five days, one blanket, one blue rug and a waterproof bag being served out to us. Leaving Deolali on the 7th our next rest camp was Khandwa which place two or three reached minus their helmets, they in their eagerness to view the country having lost them through the carriage windows. Hosangabad was the next rest camp where we rested as usual and then trained to Jhansi, between which place and Alighar we passed the fortress of Gwalior perched upon a rock. At Alighar we were allowed to leave camp and amused ourselves with ekka racing, the place consequently having very much the appearance of "'Appy 'Amstead" on a Bank holiday. Umballa was next, after

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which came Mian Mir where we joined the Left wing, detraining about 5 o'clock in the morning of the 15th April, the other drafts proceeding on their way up country.

At Mian Mir we were fitted with serge clothing and received a khaki helmet cover each, the majority of us leaving for the hills in parties on the 31st April, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd May, training to Pathankote, from whence we proceeded to Duneira, a distance of about 24 miles, in ekkas, a vehicle similar in construction to a coster's barrow only on a smaller scale and without springs, a most comfortable (?) means of conveyance; however it was less fatiguing than marching. At Duneira we stayed at the dâk bungalow for troops and indulged during the afternoon in tat riding at 6 annas per hour. We marched away next morning at 4 A.M. for Dundeara where we stayed under canvas and where the coffee shop from head-quarters had been established. We proceeded on our way next morning, the half-way house being at the Dhobis' flat where we were regaled with cake and lemonade and then climbed the hill to our destination.

ONE OF THEM.

An elderly man of Baklōh
Had a corn on the joint of his tōh,
When he was young, slim and tall,
He'd worn boots far too small,
And that was the cause of his wōh.

Moral.—If you take 8's don't wear 6's.

:o:

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

THAT the draft has arrived.

That there are several names for it.

That "jingle-johnny," "mysterious," "Japan" and "chappatty" have been suggested.

That they themselves prefer "P. and O."
That it's getting "an old tar."
That some of the "fifties" have come out.
That the sergeants won a cricket match.
That they "broke caste."
That some of them got "bobbery."
That "A" Company's military training at Kajiar was supposed to be a pic-nic.
That the march there and back was a "stiff un."
That the beer and lemonade went through the accounts.
That the ranges here are rough.
That the Mian Mir contingency has a pull in musketry.
That it's a third class shot.
That the ranges had nothing to do with the semi-quaver of the rifle.
That the sheep are separated from the goats.
That the interpretation of that parable is "the corporals have a mess now."
That the Corporals' Mess at Dalhousie Depôt is good.
That after a visit there one man didn't appear for 8 days.
That billiards is a good excuse.
That two sergeants at the butts showed misses on the targets.
That if its misses had been shown on the target it would have been a marksman.
That solar topees, goggles and white umbrellas are approved of at Mian Mir for "walking out dress."

:o:

Editorial.

—o—

It is with great regret that we have to announce the sad death of Sergeant J. Grant, who died at the Station Hospital, Dalhousie, on the 27th April of enteric fever.

Sergeant Grant enlisted in Aberdeen at the age of eighteen. During the greater part of his service he had been connected with the Regimental Institutes and was appointed Canteen Sergeant in 1891.

He was of a very quiet and reserved nature, and did his duty in a thorough and conscientious manner. He leaves a widow and three children, for whom the deepest sympathy is felt in the battalion.

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Bars from the Barrack Room.

—o—

Ever since '83.

Though the hand of time, dear comrade,
Has thy pristine smartness marred.
Though the wear and tear of seasons
Leave thee battered, worn and scarred:
Still I love thee, fondly, truly.
What can sever me from thee?
Art thou not my faithful greyback,
Shown in kit, since '83!

Trusty greyback, steadfast greyback!
Never shall I part with thee;
Honest greyback, faithful greyback,
Shown in kit, since '83!

Oft, when but a hair brained youngster,
I confess it with a tear,
Was I tempted, thee to barter,
For a dib to raise the beer.
But my better feelings rising,
Stung by conscientious dread,
To my box did I return thee
And did hackle socks instead.

Tender greyback, moral greyback,
Never shall I part with thee!
Breastplate greyback, bulwark greyback,
Shown in kit, since '83!

Well I know that others scorn thee.
Deeply did I feel the hurt,
When my kit inspecting Captain
Said "Do you call *this* a shirt"?
When he made me shake thee out, till
Yawned thy many rents and gaps.
When he said in tones sarcastic,
"Tear it up for cleaning traps!"

Call me foolish, call me balmy,
Call me dotty, what ye will,
If I o'er this ancient garment,
One small tear drop now distil.
How can human turnips sympa—
Thize with soulful scene like this?
On thy mildewed wristbands, greyback
Press I fond affection's kiss.

Charming greyback, tender greyback,
Never shall I part with thee.
Moss grown greyback, fossil greyback,
Shown in kit, since '83.

BOGGLEY WALLAH in *The Dragon*.

At the Fort.

—o—

DESPITE the fact that the weather is hot, a lot of cricket is being indulged in by the detachment here, and "G" Company, with the practice they are getting, look forward eagerly to the cricket league fixtures next season.

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The Lahore Cricket Club was met and defeated on the 13th instant, the return match played on the 17th instant resulting in a draw. In the latter match Lahore batted first and their last wicket fell with the score at 109, the detachment making 84 and having four wickets to fall at the call of time.

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On the 27th instant the Union Club were the opponents of the detachment, the match ending in a win for us by 27 runs and three wickets to spare.

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A grand concert came off on the evening of the 18th instant under the patronage of the Fort Commandant Second Lieutenant W. J. B. Tweedie. The concert was of the variety order and included a ventriloquial entertainment by Private Barnard, a stump speech by Private Webster who chose for his subject "Bacon," and some capital songs by Corporal Hynch and Private Short, Privates Yules, Elliott, Thompson, and Dipper also adding to the programme and to the evening's enjoyment.

* * * * *

The temperance men on detachment have their interests well looked after by Lance-Corporal Harvey, the Secretary of the Mian Mir Branch of the Army Temperance Association, who has opened a branch here with a refreshment bar in the library.

* * * * *

"G" Company was relieved on the 15th instant. Second Lieutenant Tweedie remains as Fort Commandant, with Sergeant H. W. Bush, Acting Sergeant-Major, Sergeant Jackson and the usual complement of Corporals and men from "H" Company who supply the detachment for the ensuing six weeks. "G" Company, under the command of Sergeant Dunkeld, returning to Mian Mir.

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The Left Wing at Mian Mir.

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Two companies of the left half battalion have now completed their Annual Musketry Course here, "E" Company finishing with an average of 124·79 for individual practices; the sectional practices are also very good, being 64·35 and 63·93 for "E" and "H" Companies respectively. The ranges are all that can be desired; firing commences as early as 4-30 A.M. and is usually over by half-past six or seven o'clock.

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Lawn tennis is now a recognised form of recreation down here as far as the Sergeants are concerned, a tennis court having been made outside the mess which is extensively patronized from 5-30 P.M. till dinner time.

* * * * *

On Wednesday, the 9th instant, the Sergeants were "at home," dancing afterwards taking place on the tennis court where an "al fresco" was held and a most enjoyable evening spent. Several capital songs were sung whilst iced refreshments were in great demand. Acting-Sergeant Major J. Wight at the conclusion made some fitting remarks respecting "killing dull care" in this proverbially unhealthy station, and thanked the ladies present for their kindness in attending these gatherings. The singing of the national anthem brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

* * * * *

Since the hot weather has set in, excellent arrangements have been made by the Commanding Officer (Major Grant) for men getting their dinner beer without exposing themselves unnecessarily to the heat of the mid-day sun, the canteen affording but little shelter from its rays. Two large tin cans per company have been provided and the liquor is drawn by the orderly corporals and issued to the men requiring it in the company bungalows.

Sand-storms are of frequent occurrence, one of unequalled severity sweeping over barracks on Tuesday, the 18th instant, the interior of the bungalows being covered with several inches of sand and filth. The storm continued for about 24 hours subsiding on the following morning.

* * * * *

Owing to the outbreak of enteric fever in the R, A. lines, the 24th Field Battery having lost as many as six men since the 5th instant, the Barrack Department are taking energetic measures to ascertain that the water-supply for our lines is correct, the supply pipes being thoroughly overhauled. Second Lieutenant J. Campbell is suffering from enteric fever though fortunately the symptoms are at present of the mildest description, whilst Lance-Corporal Harrower has already fallen a victim to this disease. A considerable number of men are in hospital here there being no less than six sergeants on the sick list.

———:o:———

Whilst stationed up here at Balún
I can sing you a different tún,
On the plains I was weedy,
And sickly, and seedy,
Now, I'm as round as the man in the mún.
Moral.—Quiff the hills.

———:o:———

He was a soldier of a very refined and sensitive nature, and one day some relatives, including two young ladies, visited him. On hearing the dinner pipes sound, one of the impulsive young ceatures exclaimed "Oh do tell us the name of that tune!" He was not well up in pipe music and after some hesitation replied: "It's—Oh John! are you still satisfied with the career you have chosen, Oh John! is your stomach in a state of repletion!"

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Regimental Gazette.

Promotions.—No. 3581 Lance-Corporal F. Beavis "G" Company, to be Corporal; No. 4129 Lance-Corporal R. Wilson, "F" Company, and No. 3551 Lance-Corporal H. Kerr "B" Company, are taken on the pay of their rank; No. 3120 Private R. Pendergast, "E" Company, and No. 3153 Private H. Wilson, "F" Company, to be Lance-Corporals.

Appointments.—Lance-Corporal W. Fiddes "D" Company, is appointed Gymnastic Instructor to the Battalion, No. 2528 Sergeant J. Blair to be Garrison Provost Sergeant, No. 3042 Private J. Mitchell and No. 3805 Private J. Mitchell, "A" Company, to be Garrison Military Police; No. 2156 Sergeant W. White, "E" Company, to be acting Quarter-Master Sergeant for Mian Mir Wing.

Employment.—No. 3554 Lance-Corporal J. Williamson to be employed in the Quarter-Master's Office; No. 2770 Private T. McLauchlan, "B" Company, to be employed as pioneer; No. 3147 Lance-Corporal G. Franks, "G" Company, to be hospital writer at Fort Lahore.

G.-C. Pay.—No. 2835 Private A. Milne, "B" Company, No. 2836 Private J. Graham, "H" Company, and No. 2823 Private C. Anderson, "C" Company, granted 2*d.*; No. 244 Lance-Corporal J. Lindsay restored 2*d.* No. 3981 Private A. Patterson, No. 4296 Private W. Ewing, and No. 4223 Private J. Hutton, "B" Company, No. 1354 Private J. Randalls, "E" Company, No. 3757 Private J. Adamson, "F" Company, and No. 4274 Private A. McCullum "G" Company, granted 1*d.* No.; 2645 Private W. Duguid, "B" Company, No. 3089 Private J. Paton, "C" Company, No. 3590 Private W. Mathieson and No. 2621 Private D. Struthers, "E" Company, No. 3713 Private J. Campbell and No. 3330 Private A Huggins, "F" Company, No. 2833 Private G. Cameron and No. 3142 Private J. Hudson, "H" Company, restored 1*d.*

Extension of Service.—No. 3086 Sergeant J. Middleby, "G" Company, and No. 2926 Corporal J. Melville, "H" Company, have been permitted to extend their service to complete 12 years with the colours.

Gymnastic Certificate.—No. 959 Lance-Corporal J. Reid, "F" Company, has been granted a first class Gymnastic Certificate.

Transport Certificate.—No. 3187 Lance-Corporal F. W. H. Baldwin, "F" Company, is granted a proficiency certificate for Transport Training.

Regimental Transfer.—No. 3720 Private J. Shehan, "B" Company, is transferred to the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade.

Musketry Prize Statement.

"H" COMPANY.

		£	s.	d.
No. 4141	Private A. E. Thompson ...	1	0	0
„ 3211	„ A. Adkins	0	17	0
„ 2484	Lance-Corporal A. Forshawe...	0	13	0
„ 3303	Private C. Addis	0	10	6
„ 3438	„ T. Armstrong... ...	0	6	6
„ 3390	„ E. Young	0	6	6
„ 2833	„ J. Cameron	0	6	6
„ 2953	„ H. Bryson	0	5	0
„ 3531	Lance-Corporal F. C. Marks ...	0	5	0
„ 3728	Private E. A. Motton	0	5	0
Commander, Best Shooting Section				
No. 3531	Lance-Corporal F. C. Marks	0	11	10½
Commander, 2nd Best Shooting Section				
No. 725	Color Sergeant J. Abbott ...	0	5	11¼

———:o:———

DEATHS.

Grant.—At the Station Hospital, Dalhousie, on the 27th ultimo, Sergeant James Grant, of enteric fever.

Hopkirk.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 2nd instant, Private Harry Hopkirk, "E" Company.

Harrison.—At the Station Hospital, Dalhousie, on the 9th instant, Private T. Harrison, "A" Company, of enteric fever.

Harrower.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 18th instant, Lance-Corporal Harrower "H" Company, of enteric fever.

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Cricket.

—o—

SERGEANTS 93RD v. SERGEANTS DALHOUSIE DEPÔT.

In answer to a challenge from the Depôt our Sergeants journeyed to the polo ground on the 3rd instant to do battle against their convalescent brethren, and enjoyed a capital day's sport. Sergeant Peggie won the toss for us and elected to take first innings. The first wicket fell with the score at 10, but before the second was secured 59 runs were telegraphed, the score eventually reaching 131. Sergeant Stonor 27, and Sergeant Smallwood 13, being the chief scorers, whilst Sergeant Stewart was in over an hour for 9. The total would no doubt have been slightly augmented, but for the eagerness of the batsmen to score and the slippery nature of the wicket, these two causes resulting in several runs being disallowed by the umpires as short.

After the usual interval during which time an excellent tiffin was disposed of and washed down with a liberal allowance of liquor, the invalids commenced the defensive, but could make little stand, owing no doubt to their weakly condition, against the deliveries of Stewart and Peggie and their innings closed for 42, the former secured 6 wickets at a very small cost whilst the latter was answerable for three. The fielding was very good all round, Staff Sergeant Manders bringing off two capital catches.

After another interval during which more liquids were disposed of, the depôt again essayed and this time managing to total 84 before the last wicket fell, Sergeant Bullen scoring 23, Q. M S. Teesdale 19, and Sergeant Vickers 17 of this number, thus leaving our Sergeants victorious by an innings and 5 runs.

Before leaving cheers were given for the winners and Sergeant-Major McRae in return thanked the Depôt Sergeants for the hospitality they had displayed and their healths were drunk with musical honors. Afterwards an impromptu gymkhana, in which wrestling on horseback and tent-pegging took a prominent place, was started and the rival elevens eventually reached their respective quarters at various hours in the evening.

93RD HIGHLANDERS.—Sergeant Peggie 7, Lance Sergeant Stonor 27, Sergeant Stewart 9, Drum Major Thompson 8, Staff Sergeant Manders 5, Sergeant Blair 6, Armourer Sergeant Smallword 13, Sergeant Garrigan 9, Color Sergeant McDonald not out 0, Sergeant Major McRae 3, Sergeant Hay 9, extras 35, total 131.

DALHOUSIE DEPÔT.—Sergeant Gould 2, 0; Sergeant Behrens 7, 0; Sergeant Bond 0, 0; Sergeant Inglis 6, 0; Sergeant Vickers 8, 17; Schoolmaster Craig 0, not out 0; Q. M. S. Teesdale 9, 19; Sergeant McDonald 0, 2; Sergeant Bullen 0, 23; Sergeant Carter not out 1, 2; Sergeant Bateman 0, 0; extras 9, 21; totals 42, 84.

93RD HIGHLANDERS v. MANKOTE CAMP.

The regimental team played their first match here on the 9th instant against a team from Mankote Camp composed of Seaforths, Borderers and Buffs. Mankote won the toss and elected to bat, sending in Major Ovens and Sergeant Thomson against the deliveries of Lance-Corporal Smith and Sergeant Stewart. The fourth wicket fell with the score at 57; but after this Doctor Anderson and Private Noonan got set and the score, despite several changes of bowling, rose to 123 before the latter was caught. Doctor Anderson was unfortunately run out when he was well set and the innings closed with the score at 226.

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Sergeant Stewart	4	0	25	0
Lance-Corporal Smith	25	4	53	4
Private Milne	8	0	43	3
„ McLaren	5	0	28	0
Lance-Corporal Crichton... ...	2	0	13	1
„ „ Fressanges ...	25	4	33	1

Second Lieutenant M. Stevenson and Bandsman Wilcox started our innings, and by some capital play raised the score to 68, the second wicket fell at 77, the third at 97 and the fourth at 107, after this however the remaining wickets fell rapidly, McLaren played a dashing innings of 29, but with the exception of Sergeant Stewart no one else made double figures and the last wicket fell with the score at 164, Mankote thus winning by 62 runs. Our officers were at home on the ground during the afternoon, whilst the Band, under the conductorship of Bandmaster J. Grant, played a most pleasing selection of music.

MANKOTE CAMP.—Major Ovens 26, Sergeant Thomson 15, Lieutenant McLagan 15, Lieutenant Lindsay 0, Doctor Anderson 76, Private Noonan 28, Private Smart 2, Lieutenant Hasler 16, Lieutenant Ledward 10, Lance-Corporal Munro not out 2, Private West 12, extras 24 total 226.

93RD HIGHLANDERS.—Second Lieutenant Stevenson 26, Bandsman Wilcox 38, Drum Major Thompson 19, Lieutenant Patten 16, Lance-Corporal Crichton, 6, Private Milne 9, Lance-Corporal Fressanges 0; Private McLaren 29; Sergeant Stewart not out 14; Sergeant Smallwood 0; Lance-Corporal Smith 0; extras 7; total 164.

SERGEANTS 93RD HIGHLANDERS v DEPÔT SERGEANTS.

The return match between these teams was played on the 17th instant, the challenge on this occasion emanating from our Sergeants who were "at home" on the ground during the day, and who dispensed hospitality to the numerous visitors that witnessed the match, luncheon and tea both being served on the ground. The match commenced soon after noon, the Depôt being first sent to the wickets and before leaving compiling the capital score of 145, Sergeant Behrens being the chief scorer with 34, whilst for the fielding side Sergeant-Major McRae brought off two capital catches. After tiffin our Sergeants commenced batting, but despite the efforts of Sergeant Stewart, who was unfortunately run out after making 33, and Drum Major Thomson the score only reached 120 when the last wicket fell. In their second innings the Depôt only scored 83, thus leaving our Sergeants 109 to win, for this however there was not sufficient time and the Depôt consequently scored a victory on the first innings by 25 runs.

DALHOUSIE DEPÔT.—Sergeant Vicars 13, 20; Q. M. S. Teesdale 9, 13; Sergeant Bond 17, 5; Sergeant Behrens 34, 8; Sergeant Gould 23, 4; Sergeant Carter 5, 2; Schoolmaster Craig 13, 3; Sergeant Cartwright 11, not out 0; Sergeant Carslake 1, 0; Sergeant Inglis 1 17; Sergeant Bullen not out 1, 0; extras 10, 9; total 145, 83.

93RD HIGHLANDERS.—Sergeant Peggie 6, not out 18; Lance Sergeant Stonor 9, 5; Sergeant Stewart 33, 8; Drum Major Thompson 22, not out 11; Armourer Sergeant Smallwood 11, Sergeant Blair not out 10, 6; Sergeant Garrigan 0, Staff Sergeant Manders 2, Sergeant Hay 0, Sergeant Major McRae 0, Color Sergeant McDonald 5, extras 22·5; totals 120, (3 wickets down) 53.

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Dalhousie Depot Notes.

—o—

THE Warrant Officers, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants of the Depôt gave a most successful quadrille party on the 9th instant to which a large number of invitations were issued, whilst the guests were very numerous, most of the Staff Officers and many civilians from Dalhousie being present. The dance programme was a large one dancing with great spirit being kept up till 3 o'clock the following morning; a part of our Band was in attendance.

The ball room was most artistically decorated for the occcasion, whilst Sergeant Bralley was an undeniable M. C. and carried out his onerous duties to perfection, Color Sergeant Walker and Sergeant Carter managing the refreshment department.

* * * * *

There is an excellent Temperance room here which is well patronised every night by the temperance men in the Station, amusements of all kinds being provided. Private W. K. Learmont of ours is the Secretary of this branch of the A. T. A.

* * * * *

A capital concert was held in the Temperance room on the night of the 1st instant, a large programme having been arranged by the Secretary which went off without a hitch, the following being the programme :—

PART I.

Song ... ... "Loch Lomond."
PRIVATE BRAND, 93RD HIGHLANDERS.
Encore ... ... "True till death."
Song... ... ... "Mary, the pride of the Dairy."
CORPORAL PRITCHARD, BORDER REGIMENT.
Recitation ... ... "The Last Shot."
LANCE-CORPORAL JOHNSTONE, 93RD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "The Shamrock from Mother's Grave."
BANDSMAN DENHOLM, 93RD HIGHLANDERS.
Song (Comic) ... ... "Soldier, Soldier."
GUNNER DALTON, R. A.
Song ... ... "Nora, my Village Queen."
PRIVATE HUNT, SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.
Encore ... ... "Seeing Life."
Song ... ... "The Miner's Dream of Home."
CORPORAL FIELDHOUSE, ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS.
Song ... ... "Seventh Royal Fusiliers."
PRIVATE HUNT, SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.
Song (Comic) ... ... "Kind regards."
LANCE-CORPORAL CARRINGTON, BORDER REGIMENT.
Encore ... ... "The Irishman in France."
Step Dance ... ... PRIVATE BELL, DERBY REGIMENT.
Song, (comic) ... ... "The man that struck O'Hara."
PRIVATE BURGESS, 93RD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "The Standard of England."
PRIVATE JENNINGS, BORDER REGIMENT.
Encore ... ..."The best of old men."
Song... ... ... "The Maid of Llangollen."
LANCE-CORPORAL BRYSON, ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS.

PART II.

Song, (comic) ... ... "The Lee-Metford Rifle."
PRIVATE SHOOTER, DERBY REGIMENT.
Song ... ..."The Pride of Merry England."
DRIVER WARNOCK, ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY.
Song ... ... "After the ball."
CORPORAL PRITCHARD, BORDER REGIMENT.
Song ... ... "The Dear Home far away."
BANDSMAN BENSON, 93RD HIGHLANDERS.
Encore ... ..."Out on the Ocean."
Recitation ... ... "The dream of Eugene Aram."
LANCE-CORPORAL JOHNSTONE, 93RD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "The Exile of Ireland."
PRIVATE DAVIS, 18TH HUSSARS.
Song ... ... "Only a trooper of the light Brigade."
LANCE-CORPORAL CARRINGTON, BORDER REGIMENT.
Song ... ... "Jeannie's Black E'e."
BANDSMAN DENHOLM, 93RD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "Love's old Sweet Song."
PRIVATE JENNINGS, BORDER REGIMENT.
Recitation ... ... "Scotch Words."
BANDSMAN CRAWFORD, 93RD HIGHLANDERS.
Encore ... ... "Bowl Aboot."
Song ... ... "I'm another."
CORPORAL FIELDHOUSE, ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

———:o:———

Yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions for one year from the following :—

M. Stevenson, Esq., 93rd Highlanders.
Sergeant R. Murray, (5 subscriptions).
Private A. Milne.
Private R. Duffin, (2 subscriptions).
H. . Gordon, Esq., 93rd Highlanders.
Lance-Corporal R. Crichton,
Colonel P. D. Trotter, (6 subscriptions).

———:o:———

Half-yearly Subscription.

—o—

Captain R. R. Ward, R. E., Bangalore.

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

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We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following :—

"The Soldier."
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.)
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The XXX" (1st East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Lancashire Lad" (47th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).
"The 5 and 9. Lillywhites Gazette" (2nd East Lancashire Regiment).
"H. L. I. Cronicle" (71st and 74th Highland Light Infantry).
"The Tiger and Sphinx" (75th Gordon Highlanders).
"The 79th News" (Cameron Highlanders).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The 7th Regiment Gazette" (New York).
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Crow."

—— o ——

COMPANY AGENTS.

—o—

"A" Company—Private Watson.
"B" „ — „ Cassels.
"C" „ —Lance-Corporal Stewart.
"D" „ —Lance-Corporal Rankin.
"E" „ — „ „ Rastall.
"F" „ — „ „ Baldwin.
"G" „ —Private Parker.
"H" „ —Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Lance-Corporal Walsh.
Fort Lahore—Corporal W. Melville.
Dalhousie Depôt—Private Learmont.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

—o—

The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line* :—

Locally ...	Per month	...	2 annas.
	„ quarter	...	6 „
	„ half-year	...	12 „
	„ year		Re. 1-8 „
With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union. N. C. O's. and men of the regiment.	Rs. 2 per annum.		
Officers and others not connected with the regiment.	Rs. 3 per annum.		

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NOTA BENE.

—o—

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," Lance-Sergeant W. G. Stonor, to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

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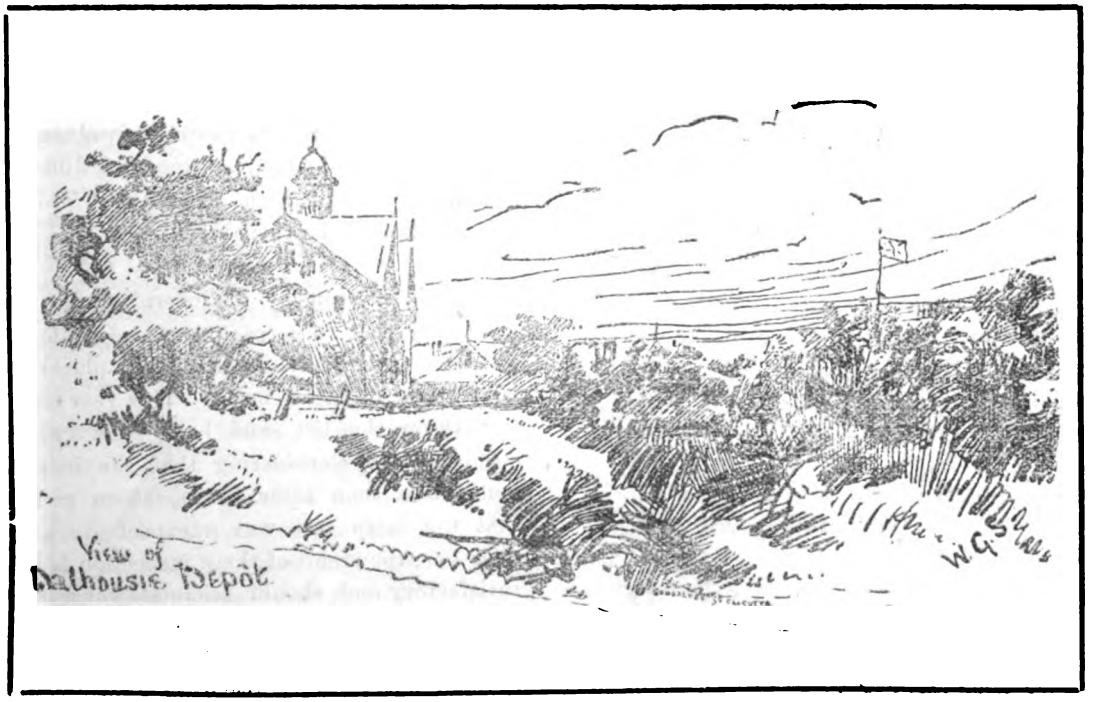
XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 7.—Vol. I. DALHOUSIE,—JULY 31st, 1894. Price, 2 Annas.



Dalhousie Depot.

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SKIRLS

"A" COMPANY, which concluded its annual musketry course on the 25th ultimo, has by its excellent firing dispelled the fallacy that it is impossible to make good scoring on the very indifferent ranges here. "A" Company's average is 132·09 for individual practices and 62·16 for rapid volleys, which are the only sectional practices completed; Lance-Corporal Bell is "company shot" with a score of 198; Sergeant McCulloch 189, Private John Mitchell 186, Drum-Major Thompson 185, and Sergeant Hay 175, being marksmen. There are twenty first-class shots, fifty-three second-class shots, and only five third-class shots, out of the eighty-three men exercised.

* * * * * *

Before leaving Edinburgh our first Battalion sent a party of 30 men under Captain Stanley Patterson into Argyllshire for recruiting purposes. The detachment was away for a fortnight, and during that time marched over 100 miles, visiting Dunoon, Driep, Inveraray, Cladich, Dalmally, Oban, Kilninver, Kilmelford, Kilmartin and Lochgilphead.

* * * * * *

Mrs. M'Brayne of the Lochgilphead Hotel, has presented the first Battalion with a mountain lamb for a regimental pet.

* * * * * *

A shooting match between teams of "D" Company of ours and "F" Company, the Border Regiment, took place on Thursday, 28th ultimo, resulting after a close finish in a win for the Mankote team by three points.

On the evening of the same date a Rugby football match was played on the polo ground between teams representing the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Garrison, the rank and file proving victorious by one try to *nil*.

* * * * * *

A correspondent writes:—

The "Excelsior" Tent No. 190 of the Independent Order of Rechabites, Salford Unity, Friendly Society, which was formed in February last by some of the men of the Battalion, is steadily advancing, numbering now about 90 members. Thanks to the Chief Ruler, Private M. Cassels and his energetic officers, coupled with the efforts of the members, the principles and benefits of the Order are becoming well known, and the total number of members testifies to the popularity which this Temperance Benefit Society is obtaining among the men of the Ninety-Third. Ever on the *qui vive* to extend the Order, any applications for information to the officers of the "Tent" meet with a prompt and hearty response, and no doubt as their platform becomes more widely known and understood, many will avail themselves of its means to provide against financial difficulties, which may assail them after the "Thin Red Line" ceases to be their home.

* * * * * *

It will be seen by a General Order lately published that our regimental signallers are pulling up, they having gained four places above last year's order of merit. This year they are twelfth on the list, and have been granted a special prize. Considering that the inspection took place soon after the monsoon rains and that the lamp test was unexpectedly a pitch dark one, the result of their inspection is highly satisfactory and should stimulate them to still further efforts in the future.

* * * * * *

The following were responsible for the excellent result: Lieutenant McNeill, Instructor; Sergeant Smith and Corporal R. Miller, Assistant Instructors; Lance-Corporals Olden and Ras-

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tall, and Privates Chapman, Henderson, McLauchlan and Russell, Regimental Signallers; Privates D. Anderson, Brand, Chelton, Dorrian, Dunmore, Groves, Hamilton, F. Johnson, W. Johnson, McKay, Phillips and Walker, Supernumeraries.

* * * * * *

The following extract from the remarks by the Commander-in-Chief in India on the inspection of the Battalion in February last are very gratifying:—

"The report on the second Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders is very satisfactory."

* * * * * *

Lieutenant and Adjutant H. P. Moulton-Barrett returned from leave on the 1st instant, and has resumed his duties as Adjutant. Captain Robinson has taken over the duties of Quartermaster.

* * * * * *

Another subscription dance took place in the Assembly Rooms on the 4th instant, most of the residents of Dalhousie being present; as usual a part of our Band was in attendance and played a pleasing selection of dance music.

* * * * * *

A Rugby team from our Battalion played the Station at football on Monday, the 9th instant, but were unsuccessful; the match resulting in a win for the Station by two goals and two tries to *nil*.

* * * * * *

The Depôt sports, which had been twice postponed owing to the weather, eventually took place on the 9th instant on the Depôt parade ground. Private Dominic Kelly, "C" Company, won the mile and also ran second in the 220 yards, these being the only open events.

* * * * * *

Major-General Viscount Frankfort who assumed command of Dalhousie on the 9th instant, visited the camp on the 11th instant, and despite the inclement weather interested himself in all the details of camp life and seemed well pleased with all he saw.

* * * * * *

The Rajah of Kapurthala's Pipers who were with the Battalion at Dagshai have now come to Dalhousie to practise with our Pipers, and to receive further instruction from our Pipe-Major.

* * * * * *

Besides such popular melodies as "Daisy Bell" and "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay" the Highland bagpipe is capable of reproducing the most classic airs, the latest efforts of our Pipers in this direction being the "Huntsmen's Chorus" from the opera "Der Frieschutz" which makes an excellent march.

* * * * * *

Firing for "Honor and Glory" match of 1894 will take place on Saturday, 6th October next, by all regiments competing. The dimensions of the target at 200 yards are slightly increased, the outer row being 22 instead of 16 inches, whilst the magpie is 32 inches instead of 24.

* * * * * *

The Sergeants' Mess is in receipt of a picture of Colonel P. D. Trotter and the Officers of the Battalion. Colonel Trotter in a letter accompanying the picture said:

"Sergeant-Major:—I am sending you for the Sergeants' Mess a picture done of a group of Officers at Mian Mir last March, and which I got lately from the photographers. There are several missing, but it is difficult to get them all together, and as it is the last group in which I shall appear as Commanding Officer it will possess some interest for you and mark the end of a period to which I shall always look back as the pleasantest part of my military service."

The picture bears the following inscription:—

To The Sergeants, 93rd Highlanders,
From Colonel P. D. Trotter,
Commanding,
Mian Mir, 1894.

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A complete Highland brigade consisting, in all probability, of the Seaforth and Gordon Highlanders in addition to ourselves, will be present at the forthcoming Durbar to be held at Lahore about the early part of December. About ten thousand troops of all arms will be present and a grand military display is expected to be made. After the Durbar, manœuvres on a very extensive scale will take place.

* * * * *

The few Officers of "The Buffs" stationed here gave a Ball in the Assembly Rooms on the evening of the 12th instant, nearly the whole of Dalhousie being present and doing justice to the proverbial hospitality of "The Buffs."

* * * * *

The name and glory of the old Ninety-Third will surely never cease to exist so long as it has writers such as Mr. Forbes-Mitchell to hand down its doings to posterity as he has done in his "Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny." The following letter from that well-known novelist, Mr. R. L. Stevenson, addressed to the author speaks for itself :—

VIATUNA, SAMOA,
Vid SAN FRANCISCO,
May 21*st*, 1894.

DEAR SIR, —I have just retired from reading a chapter of your book to my wife and daughter. There was not a dry eye at the table and the reader had to suspend operations, choking upon sobs. They were tears of pride and sympathy, and I beg to offer this family anecdote as a testimony of the success of your "Reminiscences." Of the making of books there is said to be but one end and I have made many, but if I could only think once before I died that I had given so much and such noble pleasure to a reader I should be more than rewarded. You have made me proud and glad to be a Scotsman. "Lonach*"! Long live the Ninety-Third and long may the memory of Sir Colin Campbell flourish.

Gratefully yours,
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

* * * * *

Stronger praise than this it would be impossible for any writer to expect.

* * * * *

On the evening of the 17th instant the Sergeants of the Garrison gave a grand ball in the Assembly Rooms. The guests were very numerous and dancing was kept up with great spirit till the early hours the following morning.

* * * * *

A concert took place in the Assembly Rooms on the night of the 18th instant which was well patronised by the troops in camp.

* * * * *

Before leaving Edinburgh our first Battalion was finally inspected by General Rowlands, the inspection lasting two days.

* * * * *

The first Battalion left the castle on the 9th ultimo and marched to the Caledonian Station where they entrained for Glasgow, from thence being shipped to Portsmouth on board the Troop-ship *Tyne*. The following extract from the *Aldershot News* announces their arrival at their destination :—.

The first Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders arrived here by march route from Portsmouth on Friday last. The Battalion is commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel O. C. Hannay, and consists of 16 officers and 532 warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men. Considerable gloom was thrown over the regiment by the receipt of the news of the Adjutant's death, Captain R. de C. Boyd, who had been left behind through illness. He was very popular, and his death is regretted by all ranks.

The Sergeants were entertained at a smoking concert by the local Volunteer Corps at Petersfield, but no other incident occurred during the march. The men behaved exceedingly well, and there was very little falling out of the ranks. The Battalion is at present encamped on No. 13 Camping Ground, Swan Inn Plateau. Lieutenant E. C. H. Grant is acting Adjutant, and, it is believed, will be confirmed in the appointment.

* * * * *

Colonel Trotter gave a farewell dinner in the Mess on Wednesday, 18th instant, whilst on the following evening the Colonel was the guest of the Mess. The toast of the evening was proposed by Major J. D. Fetherstonhaugh to which Colonel Trotter replied, alluding in a feeling manner to his long connection with the Regiment. The Band was in attendance both nights and played a most appropriate selection of music.

* * * * *

The day before leaving, the Commanding Officer visited the Sergeants' Mess at dinner

* The war cry of the Clan Forbes.

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time and wished the Sergeants a regretful "Goodbye"; in the evening he paid an informal visit to the camp going in several of the tents and bidding farewell to the men.

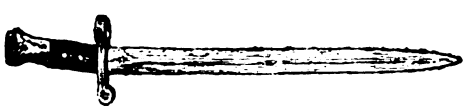
* * * * *

On the morning of the 21st instant the whole of the head-quarter Wing collected at the drill shed to bid farewell to one they held in so much esteem, their Commanding Officer. About half past ten the Colonel made his appearance accompanied by Major Campbell, Captains Mackenzie and Cameron, Lieutenant and Adjutant Moulton-Barrett and Lieutenants Patten and Gordon. He shook hands with the Sergeant-Major, and turning to the men said: "Goodbye my lads, I'm sorry I'm leaving you." The men answered with three cheers and one cheer more, the waving of a signaller's flag among the troops seeming to be the signal, the Band played "Auld lang syne," and led by the Pipers and Drummers, who soon struck up "Happy we've been a' togither," Colonel Trotter rode away towards Pathankote.

* * * * *

The same evening the following appeared in Battalion Orders :—

"In quitting the station to-day and relinquishing the command of the Battalion in which he nearly served thirty years, the Commanding Officer trusts that all will understand, that though his connection with the Ninety-Third has professionally ceased yet that its interests in the future, as in the past, will always be uppermost in his thoughts, and that nothing will give him greater pleasure than to hear of its welfare and to exert himself for its benefit, as he has so long striven to do. To every officer, non-commissioned officer and man he bids, most regretfully, a hearty farewell. He trusts they will not forget the few words of advice he has, from time to time, given them, and his sincere hope and firm belief is that they will ever work to maintain the high name they now bear among Her Majesty's forces."



Swears.

—o—

WHY will men (and sometimes women) offend the public sense of decency, by using vulgar and profane oaths, when there are so many expressions now in vogue, and equally calculated to relieve their feelings, that are generally winked at and are not looked upon as being improper.

For instance the word "bally" can now be used in the ball room without causing a blush to mantle on the cheeks of the proverbially modest damsel of seventeen; regarding the derivation of the word, it has nothing to do with the "ballet" of Alhambra or Empire fame, but if I recollect aright, a very good definition was given in the "Pink Un" some years ago about the same time as that enterprising journal invented the word "B rot." Surely all have heard of that irascible old gentleman who used to relieve his feelings with the voluminous expression "Godfrey Daniel Gustavus Adolphus," a very harmless collection of Christian names, but still very effective if given with proper emphasis. Among expressions calculated to relieve one's feelings I may mention "Great Scott," "Hang it," "Dash it all," "By Jupiter," "By Jove," "Jumping Moses," Je-hosophat," these are just a few of those ticketed harmless in the diary of Mrs. Grundy.

Then again, there are various degrees of comparison in swears, one man says he does not care "one continental," another "one teetotal," and yet another "one military"; now in the selection of these terms there is a great deal of subtlety at work, naturally on remembering the old saying "swears like a trooper." "One military" is evidently the strongest so heads the list, whilst "a continental" makes a good second, but a weak and watery affair such as "a teetotal" comes last. For instance, in a heated argument at the end of a good dance in the Sergeants' Mess, you can imagine the Flag thundering out that he does not care "one military," next morning on the Orderly Sergeant asking him if he will do so-and-so, he simply

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says it does not matter "one continental," whilst a little later when approached by the Orderly Corporal on some company matter he feebly utters he does not give "one teetotal."

Take the French or Germans for instance, and some of their oaths literally translated sound very curious. "Sacre bleu" really only means sacred blue, whilst "Sapristi" has no meaning whatever.

The far-famed "donner-wetter" of the Germans is only thunder weather, and by prefixing the cross and the devil, you get "croix-teufel donner-wetter," an oath which rapped out sharply will completely annihilate any ordinary German antagonist.

Another word, and a very nasty little word too, that one hears thrown about promiscuously is "liar," now instead of calling a man a perverter of the truth, whenever you find it impossible to swallow anything told you by a friend, simply do a sickly smile, elevate your eyebrows, and in a kind of interrogatory way murmur "I say" with just sufficient emphasis on the I, the man will know what you mean and will in all probability "draw back his butt." Think of the courtesy of the American, who on being told a palpable lie by a Britisher and on the latter asking him if he doubted it, replied "Wall, stranger, I never call any man a liar, but if I was to see you walking down Broadway with Ananias and Saphira his wife I should say—there goes a well-assorted trio."

If we look into the matter of swearing we find that it is a habit people have got into, the process is simple, men swear because they have got used to it, boys swear because they hear men do so and they think it is manly.

Not many years ago the rank of a man was judged by the force and variety of his "swears," the more forcible and varied the higher his rank, but since the ascension of Queen Victoria, swearing as a fashionable essential has died away in the same manner as the five-bottle men. Look at the lesson contained in that old story of *Punch's*, recently quoted as original in one of our contemporaries by the way, a man noted for his constant swearing was once brought to book for it in his Club, "Sir," he replied to the gentleman who remonstrated with him, "I'm a plain spoken man and call a spade a spade." "Not at all" replied the other "had you occasion to allude to a spade you would call it a ——— ——— ——— shovel."

N. B.—Dash to be filled in according to the reader's digestion.

One more story regarding this bad habit. A few years ago some young Englishmen were spending a week or so in Paris, when one of them accosted a Frenchman as follows: "Where the ——— ——— is the ——— Casino, comprenez-vous? there," he said, "is that French"? "No," said the Frenchman shaking his head, "it is very bad English." (Dashes! as before detailed.) The habit of swearing is both foolish and unnecessary and whenever any of my readers feel incline to let drive, let them use some of the expressions I have suggested, and should they do so I shall feel that I have not written this article in vain.

MAC.

Dalhousie.

—o—

TO continue the description of Dalhousie, I must request the reader to accompany me down the road to the left, mentioned in our last; if fine we can walk down, but if the weather be "monsoonical" in its tendencies, then we must slide. This road leads to the mule lines, the Presbyterian Church, the Convalescent Depôt, the ranges and polo ground, but this month I shall only deal with the Depôt, whose buildings present at first sight a most imposing appearance.

The Depôt is one of many hill stations or sanitariums, where the more sickly men of Regiments stationed in the plains are sent to recruit their health during the hot weather; I have heard it said that some men manage "the Hills" every year—they must either know or be known of the Doctor—still though some undeserving cases may be sent up occasionally,

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there is no doubt that these Convalescent Depôts tend greatly to lessen the death-rate amongst British troops serving in India.

At the Depôt one finds a grand assortment of Regiments—Buffs, Borders, Seaforths, Artillerymen, Hussars, and Ninety-Third,—and guard mounting is a most amusing sight. Passing No. 5 bungalow you come to the one part of which our artist has depicted (No. 4 I think) in which are situated all the Staff Offices, the Sergeants' Mess and the A. T. A., the latter a splendid room by the way and very well managed, and in which all dancing members can exert themselves twice a week. Leaving this bungalow to your right and passing No. 3, you arrive at the parade square, of which we print a hasty sketch; it is here that all gymkhanas take place, training is indulged in both for football and running; football matches though are decided on the Dhobie Flats there not being room on the square, and on Tuesdays and Friday the square is handed o ver to us for drill purposes. The corner of the guard room is also shown and next to that comes the reading room, the billiard rooms, with two billiard tables, both part-worn, still excellent things with which to while away an hour or two and sometimes a rupee or two at shell-out. Next comes the grocery bar and coffee-shop where "Johnson" dispenses some most mysterious, albeit somewhat savoury messes; then you get to the Corporals' Mess, a very perilous, though decidedly agreeable place for adventurous Privates, and very jovial on a long night, side by side with which lies the canteen, alas its glory has somewhat departed from it for the issue of rum has been stopped, still the beer is good and music is supplied gratis by the troops, sometimes it takes the form of furious fiddling, sometimes the windy wailings of a concertina, and occasionally "Leather jaws" obliges. At times, chiefly pay nights, an impromptu dance is started, but at all times that dance, so peculiarly adapted to a canteen, finds its exponents,—I need hardly say I mean the "barrel dance."

(To be continued.)

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Farewell Dinner to Colonel Trotter.

—o—

ON the 19th instant Colonel P. D. Trotter was entertained at Mess by his brother officers, the General Officer Commanding and many officers of the station being also guests of the Regiment. Major Fetherstonhaugh proposed Colonel Trotter's health, and in kindly and regretful terms referred to his long service in the one Regiment, the "best school for officers" and also to the hopes entertained by all that the Regiment would once more find themselves in his command as holder of some higher appointment. The song "For he's a jolly good fellow" followed on this toast, the company present drinking the health of the Commanding Officer amidst great enthusiasm, with Highland honours. To this toast Colonel Trotter replied as follows:—

"*Major Fetherstonhaugh, my Lord and gentlemen*:—It is very difficult for me, adequately, to express my thanks to you for the manner in which you have responded to the toast of my health proposed by my friend Major Fetherstonhaugh with his usual kindly and characteristic grace, and you must take my word for it that it is only feeling sure of your sympathy with me to-night—a night I have long looked forward to with feelings almost akin to dread—which enables me to say the very few words with which I propose to trouble you.

Major Fetherstonhaugh has very kindly alluded to my long service in the Ninety-Third, and to my devotion to the Regiment, that best school in which all of us are trained, and has referred to the fact that only for two years—during the Soudan campaign of 1884-85, have I been withdrawn from regimental life.

Now it happened to me lately to get a request from the Editor of a newspaper, who shall be nameless, to write him an autobiography of my life! I was obliged to refuse however, partly because I felt that my modesty would prevent my doing justice to the theme, and also because I did not feel that the events of my humble career possessed much public interest. Well, I am not going to inflict on you the autobiography I refused to the press, but I think you will agree with me that the conclusion of some eight and twenty years' service in one Regiment is not only a sort of turning point in a Commanding Officer's career, but is also a period calling for reflection by those who have served so loyally under him.

It is not so much a case of the "old order changing giving place to new" for I feel that the system of the Ninety-Third established by my predecessors and pretty closely adhered to by me, is good enough for most people; but there are few men who have held the responsible position I have for some years past who, on quitting it, can lay their hand upon their heart and say that they have nothing to regret, or nothing they would change were their time to begin again; nothing they have omitted or would not do differently were it to be done again. Therefore, and you will pardon me my Lord, I am sure, for speaking these few words exclusively to my own officers, I think this is more or less a turning point for us all, and more especially for the officer who is selected to succeed me and who I hope is among us here to-night; it is I say a time to consider whether you, similarly with me could not, by putting your shoulder to the wheel, do in some small ways, more for the good of your men and for the credit of the corps we all love so much; if you can, there is no greater kindness you could confer on me now that I am leaving than by carrying out any little reforms or plans that may occur to you.

Now, although I have always been more or less of a conservative and rather a *laudator temporis acti*, yet I am free to confess that I have seen some few changes for the better during my long connection with the Regiment. Education among the men, though I am by no means given to forcing it too severely upon them, as I consider an acting and able-bodied machine in the ranks is better than a thinking and calculating one, and that too much learning, if not actually leading to insanity, is apt to lead to litigious proclivities and criticisms of superiors—still I feel that what I could call necessary education is amply attained, and that, while our physique is little, if at all, inferior to the last generation, there are just as many men now, as formerly, that excel their fellows in this respect.

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As regards both officers and men there is far more attention devoted to sport of various kinds than there formerly was—and this I consider one of the most wholesome signs of any community, civil or military—and though I cannot believe that our heads are harder than of yore yet certainly, for a number of years past, the time of the Commanding Officer has not been taken up as it often was in my early days on mornings succeeding a dance or by enquiry into some post-prandial eccentricities! Nor had we in those days the advantage accorded to the soldier of twenty-four hours' reflection, before facing the Commanding Officer, for, as a matter of fact our—or shall I say *their*—sins were expiated within a very short time of being committed. And now, gentlemen, I will detain you no longer; I know that you all appreciate that in giving over the command I am influenced by strangely mixed feelings; on the one hand I feel that I am surrendering a burden which in times of trouble—and these will occur in public as in private life—I have sometimes felt as very heavy to bear, and I have also realised, that, every month, I am nearing a return to a home and those home interests about which we all feel so keenly; on the other hand I am, in a way, giving up what has been to me a home and a very happy one of many years, and am severing myself from the fast friendships and the friends of many years standing. I said, gentlemen, I was leaving a happy home and I saw lately in a paper some one sent me that this Regiment was described as a happy one; that it certainly is, and that you will all endeavour to keep it so is my confident belief and if, in the future, the experience I have gained during the last twenty-five years can in however humble a capacity be exerted for the good either of the regiment, collectively, or for any member of it individually, you will credit me with the belief that few things would give me greater pleasure.

I am as ignorant as you are whether I am ever likely to be selected for future employment or not, but however congenial such employment might be I never expect to find myself in a prouder position or to work in a happier sphere than I have, with your help and co-operation, as Colonel of the Ninety-Third."

Later in the evening, Colonel Trotter proposed the health of the General Commanding the District, a General they fully appreciate and were all proud to serve under, and under whom though in a higher position, the Regiment hoped they would serve under again.

Lord Frankfort, in reply, alluded in very kind and flattering terms to the occasion of the dinner expressing his sorrow at Colonel Trotter's departure and regretted that he would not be in the Lahore Command again next winter. Songs and toasts were continued to a late hour and the evening's entertainment was thoroughly characteristic of what has always been the social aspect of life in the Ninety-Third.

At Quatre Bras a French Dragoon regiment succeeded by a desperate charge in breaking the square of a Highland Corps. Later in the day an Officer of high rank and foreign by birth remarked to the Colonel of the Highlanders: "Ha! Colonel, so the French got in among your men to-day." The answer was ready and cool, "Aye, but they didna win out again."

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Dalhousie Depot Notes.

—o—

OUR athletic sports which were to have taken place on the 30th ultimo did not, owing to the rain, come off till the 9th instant and then upon ground that was wet and sodden from the continuous effect of the monsoon; even the morning of the 9th was dull and overcast, but towards mid-day the sun managed to struggle through the heavy clouds, and by half past four, when the sports commenced, the weather was all that could be desired. The parade ground on which the sports were held had, with the bright dresses of the ladies, the gay bunting, the white tents, and the various uniforms of the men, a most picturesque appearance whilst the motley assemblage of natives, who invariably turn up in force to these displays, added greatly to the animation of the scene.

The following were the events with results:—

LONG JUMP.—Lance-Corporal Hoare, Seaforth Highlanders, (1); Private Roberts, East Surrey Regiment, (2); Private Collard, "The Buffs," (3).

PUTTING THE SHOT (24 lbs.).—Private McIntosh, Seaforth Highlanders, (1); Private Collard, "The Buffs," (2); Private Trotter, Ninety-Third, (3). After tieing twice Private Trotter lost second place by the narrow margin of one inch.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' RACE (¼ MILE).—Lance-Corporal Irwin, Ninety-Third, (1); Lance-Corporal Hawten, "The Buffs," (2); Lance-Corporal McQuarrie, Royal Scots Fusiliers, (3).

MOUNTED RACE.—Lance-Corporal Hoare, Seaforth Highlanders and Private Roberts, East Surreys (1); Privates Collard and Layton, "The Buffs," (2); Lance-Corporal Dryson, Royal Scots Fusiliers, and Lance Corporal Walker, Border Regiment, (3).

WHEEL RACE FOR R. A.—Gunner Carrington (1); Gunner Moir (2); Trumpeter Gilbert (3).

LLOYD-LINDSAY RACE.—(Teams of four).—Gunners Quest and Rodgers, Driver Otway and Boy Hamilton, R. A., (1); Privates Jennings, Moir and McCrumb, Border Regiment, and Gunner Houlston, R. A., (2).

THREE-LEGGED RACE.—Lance-Corporal Hoare, Seaforth Highlanders and Private Roberts, East Surrey Regiment, (1); Corporal Clarke, Ninety-Third, and Lance-Corporal Hawten, "The Buffs," (2); Lance-Corporals Langdon and Stephens, Ninety-Third, (3).

SECTION TUG OF WAR.—(Teams of eight).—No. 1 Section (1); No. 4 Section (2).

In the first ties No. 1 Section pulled No. 3, whilst No. 4 (Ninety-Third) were victorious over No. 2 (Seaforth Highlanders); the latter pull lasted seventeen minutes and caused great excitement, it being a most exhausting one and Lance-Corporal Gray of ours having to be taken to hospital from the effects of it, in the final, owing to Lance-Corporal Gray's absence, No. 1 had an easy victory.

ONE HUNDRED YARDS RACE.—Lance-Corporal Hoare, Seaforth Highlanders (1); Private Roberts, East Surrey Regiment, (2); Lance-Corporal Irwin, Ninety-Third, (3).

MILE RACE (OPEN).—Private Kelley, Ninety-third, (1); Private Morton, "The Buffs," (2); Private W. Walker, Ninety-Third, (3).

Private Kelley won this race easily having at least 150 yards to spare.

EGG BREAKING COMPETITION.—Lance-Corporal Small, Border Regiment, (1); Gunner Arthur, R. A., (2).

CONSOLATION RACE (½ MILE).—Private Thompson, Seaforth Highlanders, (1); Private Call, "The Buffs," (2); Private Jones, "The Buffs," (3).

TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY YARDS.—(Open).—Lance-Corporal Hoare, Seaforth Highlanders (1); Private Kelley, Ninety-Third, (2); Private Farley, Ninety-Third, (3).

BAND RACE.—(220 YARDS).—Private Lillywhite (1); Private Gadd (2); Private Ward (3).

Major-General Viscount Frankfort at the conclusion presented the prizes, whilst our Band and Pipers were in attendance and discoursed a most pleasing selection of music between the various events, contributing greatly to the afternoon's enjoyment.

* * * * *

Lieutenant Patten of ours has been appointed Station Staff Officer owing to Lieutenant Onslow being on the sick list from injuries received in a Rugby football match, from which he is now recovering.

* * * * *

A party of nine of our convalescents from Mian Mir arrived on the 3rd instant and have joined No. 4 section.

* * * * *

No. 4333 Private J. Murphy, "C" Company, and No. 3221 Private R. Skinner, "A" Company, have been transferred to the Depôt from headquarters as convalescents from sickness.

Lance-Corporal Forbes, "B" Company, has been appointed Librarian.

—:o:—

During the Crimea War a private of the regiment, writing to his father in Caithness, informed him that the sheet of paper forming his letter had cost him five shillings.

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Football.

—o—

THE Regimental team has at last started training for the Durand Tournament. Although so late in commencing work it is to be hoped that they will make the most of their time and prove the good opinion the *Civil and Military Gazette* has of the "stalwart team of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders."

The men are at present indulging in exercise and practice every morning and evening, together with matches between two elevens, and in a few weeks should be in a very fair condition. At present the eleven who will represent the Battalion at Simla have not been chosen, but the following are those at present training and from whom the team will eventually be selected:—"A" Company—Privates Wilson, McManus, Reid, McCormack, and McDonald. "B" Company—Lance-Corporal McKimm and Privates Singleton, Duffin, McLaren, Walls, Kerr, Hutton and Whitecross. "C" Company—Privates Sturgess, McArthur, Gracie, Kelley, Bird, Hamilton and Johnson. "D" Company—Privates Gordon, Watson, Wilkie and O'Donnell. Band—Corporal Watters and Privates Denholm and Lillywhite. Color-Sergeant Spedding is superintending the training.

Ninety-Third v. *The Garrison* (*Rugby Rules*).

Our Rugby team met a team representing the Garrison on the 9th instant. Owing to being two men short and to the fact that most of our players were out of practice—Rugby being almost totally neglected in the Battalion—the match resulted in a reverse, the Garrison team winning by two goals and two tries (sixteen points) to *nil*.

The result is not surprising as the Garrison team was a fairly strong one containing several members of the Regimental team of "The Buffs" who are one of the best Rugby teams in India and winners of the Calcutta Cup. Our team was as follows: Private J. Brown, back; Corporal R. Millar, Privates W. Johnson and Mahoney, three-quarter backs; Private Singleton, half-back; Privates Macgregor, Bull, Anderson, Binns, Ewing, Adcock, Brindley and McLaren, forwards.

Rifle Competitions.

—o—

"D" COMPANY, NINETY-THIRD, v. "F" COMPANY, BORDER REGIMENT.

A Shooting match between "D" Company of ours and "F" Company, Border Regiment, took place on the 28th ultimo in rather dull weather.

The distances fired at were 500 and 700 yards, and after a very even match the Maukote's team proved themselves the victors by 3 points. The following were the scores at each distance: "F" Company, Border Regiment, 193—167, total 360; "D" Company, Ninety-Third, 199—158, total 357.

"D" Company's team was as follows: Quarter-master Sergeant Rae, Sergeant Smith, Lance-Corporals Stimson, Browne, Olden and Smith, and Privates G. Gordon, D. Gordon, Lynch and Devereux.

"C" COMPANY'S SHOOTING CLUB (THIRD COMPETITION).

"C" Company held their third quarterly competition on the range here on July 12th, the weather was unfortunately, not all that could be desired and the original programme had to be considerably curtailed, rain putting an end to all attempts at shooting soon after 10 o'clock. Some very good scores were made at the two distances fired at 200 and 300 yards, whilst the amount of money distributed in prizes amounted to Rs. 60. The following were the various prize winners: Corporal A. Watters, Lance-Corporals R. Watson and W. Jones, and Privates J. Black, W. Johnson, C. Shepperd, J. Campbell, J. Brown (3870), J. Farquharson, J. Dodds, J. Dunsmore, J. McDonald, A. Wight, W. Brocklehurst, J. White and T. Craig.

—o—

An energetic old Johnnie at Chumba
Sent away for a new fashioned Humba,
Tho' pneumatic it's tyres
The khuds broke it's wyres,
So he sold the machine as mere Ihumba.

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Garrison Sergeants' Ball.

—o—

THE Warrant Officers, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants of the Dalhousie Garrison gave a most successful quadrille party in the Assembly Rooms on the 17th instant, everything under a most efficient committee being excellently arranged.

The room was most tastefully decorated, being draped in pale yellow and pea green, whilst glittering stars of claymores, bayonets, pioneers' swords, and dirks, and pipe banners and tartan plaids festooned with brooches, gave the room a most bright and martial, though decidedly regimental, appearance. Over one hundred invitations were issued, the majority being responded to, Colonel P. D. Trotter and the most of our Officers being present. Color Sergeant McDonald of ours and Lance-Sergeant Brailley, Border Regiment, were M.Cs. and were responsible for an excellent dance programme, the chief items being a Highland Schottische and a Reel, the latter being danced to perfection by Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Blacklock, Mr. Masson and Sergeant Murray and was certainly the feature of the evening.

A part of our Band consisting of sixteen performers supplied the music, whilst Piper Anderson was also in attendance. The supper, for which Sergeant Murray of ours was responsible, was first class, whilst the whole of the arrangements left nothing whatever to be desired.

———:o:———

The church here is awfully elite,
The residents quiet and discrite
On Sundays at home
To church we all roam,
Here Tommy mayn't sit on a site.

———:o:———

Editorial.

—o—

THROUGH the courtesy of the publishers, Messrs. Gale and Polden of Aldershot, we have received a copy of the first issue of their new venture namely *The Aldershot News*. This is a weekly paper and cannot fail to be a success, comprising as it does, not only a continued story by such a well-known writer as Captain F. M. Peacock, but all current news of the day, and what will be of more moment to our readers, the latest news concerning the movements of the troops stationed at home. In this issue they also publish a *resumé* of the raising and career of "The Fourth Dragoon Guards," accompanied by some excellent photos.

* * * * *

Messrs. Max Minck & Co., Lahore, have favoured us with a copy of their Catalogue for 1894-95 which is replete with everything in the watch-making and jewellery line. Their celebrated "Army" and "Soldiers'" watches, in sterling silver, at Rs. 38 and Rs. 28 respectively, are certain to command a ready sale in the Army at large.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it].

THAT it hears of a contemplated matrimonial alliance.

That it wishes luck to both.

That the Rugby team has good material.

That it wants practice.

That the casuals have four marksmen.

That a N.-C. O. got his breakfast and bearer mixed.

That the Sergeants' dance was a great success.

That the Highland Schottische was great.

That it had two grand exponents.

That "The Pimple" has gone to Ferozepore.

That "D" Company's Gardeners are getting impatient.

What its Mian Mir Cousin says :—

THAT the rains are cooling it.

That quinine is a strong point.

That the dose is compulsory.

That it gets its 12 o'clock tonic in cans.

That a N.-C. O. forgot his bolt.

That it may have been on account of family worries.

That "H" Company supplies the Gaffs.

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Regimental Gazette.

Promotions.—No. 4945 Lance-Corporal R. Wright has been granted the temporary rank of Lance-Sergeant whilst employed at the Chamba Club. No. 2967 Private W. McPherson, "A" Company, and No. 3004 Private R Spittal "H" Company to be Lance-Corporals.

Good Conduct Pay.—No. 2930 Corporal J. Dawson, "E" Company, and 2904 Lance-Sergeant J. Stewart, "F" Company, eligible for 2*d.*; No 2869 Private J. Wright, "A" Company, No. 2106 Private J. Ogden, "C" Company, No. 2917 Private J. Barker, No. 2911 Private G. Foster, No. 2931 Lance-Corporal W. McNab, No. 2573 Private J. Stewart, No. 2900 Private W. Ritchie, No. 4524 Private A. Anderson, "E" Company, No. 2937 Private J. Lyons, No. 2856 Lance-Corporal T. Campbell, "F" Company, No. 2892 Private J. Morrison, No. 2894 Private A. Thompson, No. 2817 Private J. Wiggins, "G" Company, and No. 2881 Private T. Stevenson, "H" Company, granted 2*d*; No. 3856, Private P. Crosbie, No. 2910 Private G. Morley, "C" Company, No. 3968 Private A. Brown, "E" Company, No. 3774 Private P. London, "F" Company, No. 3156 Private A. O'Hara, "G" Company, and No. 2887 Private H. Smith, "H" Company, granted 1*d*; No. 3063 Private R. Wardrop, "A" Company, No. 3087 Piper H. Smart, No. 2878 Private J. Crossley, No. 2862 Private J. Ballantyne, No. 3513 Private W. Shields, No. 2663 Private T. Donald, No. 4033 Private J. Forrester, "E" Company, No. 3779 Private S. McCaw, No. 3502 Private J. Dundas, "F" Company, No. 4103 Private A. Dipper, "G" Company, No. 2927 Private D. McLean, "H" Company restored 1*d.*

Appointments.—No. 2516 Sergeant, J. Hay "A" Company, to be caterer in the Sergeants' Mess.

Employment.—No. 4081 Private A. Baker, No. 2773 Private J. Brown and No. 3885 Private E. Mahoney, "C" Company, to be Hospital Orderlies. No. 2920 Private G. Lawson, "C" Company, to be Clerk in the Orderly Room. No. 4293 Private D. Newall "B" Company, to be Clerk in the Pay Office.

Acting Schoolmistress—Mrs. Grant to be Acting Schoolmistress.

Telegraphy Class.—No. 3536 Private F. Collins, "C" Company, No. 4885 Private J. Devlin, No. 3373 Private D. Gordon, "D" Company, No. 4137 Private J. Hindmarsh, No. 4220 Private F. Young, "G" Company, No. 4047 Private J. Williams, and No. 4189 Private J. McFarlane, "E" Company, to undergo course of Telegraphy.

Transfers.—No. 4397 Private E. Cody, "C" Company transferred from head quarters to Wing at Mian Mir; No. 4322 Private A. Dunn and No. 4899 Private A. Crawford, transferred from Convalscent Depôt to head-quarters.

Musketry Prize Statement.

"A" COMPANY.

			£	s.	d.
No.	864	Lce.-Corpl. J. Bell	1	0	0
„	3042	Private J. Mitchell	0	13	0
„	2838	„ N. McCall	0	11	0
„	2585	„ J. Campbell	0	9	0
„	2609	„ W. McDade	0	9	0
„	2108	„ G. Wallace	0	7	0
„	3075	„ L. Grant	0	7	0
„	3874	„ T. Price	0	7	0
		Commander Best Shooting Section—			
„	621	Sergeant J. H. Symcox	0	10	4½
		Commander Second Best Section—			
„	413	Color-Sergeant T. Spedding ...	0	5	2½

DEATHS.

Law.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 10th instant, No. 2762 Private J. Law, "G" Company, of enteric fever.

Kirk.—At the Station Hospital, Dalhousie, on the 17th instant, No. 3894 Private J. Kirk, "C" Company, of enteric fever.

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The Left Wing at Mian Mir.

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THE Wing has lately been treated to a couple of performances in the Regimental Theatre. The first one arranged by the Master-Tailor took place on the 29th ultimo. Mrs. Blacklock, Mr. Richmond, Lance-Corporal Gosling and Privates Elliott, Youles and Sparks singing some capital songs. Private Thompson gave a banjo song and selection, and with Private Barnard on his mandoline, was answerable for a most pleasing duet. The latter, besides a mandoline solo, gave the audience a specimen of his ventriloquial accomplishments, which, as usual, brought forth vociferous applause.

* * * * *

The second performance took place soon after the return of "H" Company's talent from Fort Lahore and was most successful. Part I was of the variety order, Mrs. Owen sang "Eileen Allanah" and "The song that reached my heart" to perfection, Captain Owen sang "The Skipper" and Captain Davidson a song of his own entitled "The Garden of Eden." Lance-Corporal Gosling was answerable for two items on the programme: "He thought of home" and "Time, gentlemen, please," both of which he gave in his well-known style. Privates Bovill, Begent, Glossop, and Elliott, sang several good songs and Private Barnard again delighted the audience with his ventriloquial entertainment. In the second part the stage was occupied by "H" Company's Minstrel Troupe who acquitted themselves to perfection, some of their jokes being very funny whilst their songs were invariably good.

* * * * *

All the Companies here have at last finished their musketry "G" Company's average for individual practices being 126·64; not so good as might have been expected, but fair considering the disadvantages under which the Company fired, the monsoons being in full swing. Private G. Emmett is the best shot with a score of 184, Private W. Laidlaw being the only other marksman.

Private Emmett is one of the "Balaclava" draft and it is certainly a distinction for him to wear, in his first course of musketry in this country, the "gold guns" of a Company that prides itself as much upon its shooting as "G."

The average for field practices is 53·70. Nineteen casuals have also been exercised, their average being for individual 132·83, for field practices 60·60.

* * * * *

2nd Lieutenant J. Campbell has proceeded home on six months' leave of absence.

* * * * *

Lieutenant McNeill has been appointed Brigade Instructor of Army Signalling here, whilst Lance-Sergeant Pringle has been appointed Assistant Instructor to native classes.

Quoits.

—o—

A MATCH came off on the 9th instant between Private J. Brown, "A" Company, and Private Alex. Coutts, "B" Company, for Rs. 10 a-side. The game was 41 up, Brown threw 7 lb. quoits standing at 21 yards, whilst Coutts who threw 9 lb. quoits stood at 18 yards.

The match was closely contested throughout the men "peeling" several times, Brown eventually winning by 2 points. Private J. Amos, "B" Company, "papered" Brown whilst Private P. Walker, "A" Company, officiated in the same capacity for Coutts.

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At the Fort.

—o—

"H" COMPANY gave their farewell concert here on the 2nd instant, when, under the able management of the Acting Sergeant-Major, an excellent programme was provided and seemed to be greatly appreciated by all the residents of the Fort. The first part of the programme was of the variety order which Private Youles opened by singing "I saw 'er steal 'er apron to 'er eye," Lance-Corporal Shaw, Derbyshire Regiment, followed with "Here upon guard am I," Private Glossop sang "Her name was B. R. O. W. N.," Private Bovill "Betwixt love and duty," Corporal Adams, "Ju-jah," Private Moore, "Afton Water," after which came a duet "The Convent Bells," by Sergeant Jackson and Corporal Rose, which was sung to perfection. Mrs. North sang "Ye Banks and Braes, most feelingly and was deservedly encored, giving "Cush-la-Machree" in response. Private Merrilees sang "Rolling Home," Corporal Inglis, "Daisy Bell," Private Simmons, "The Dress Improver," Miss North sang "Will ye no come back again" in most touching style, whilst 2nd Lieutenant Tweedie with "The Laird o' Cockpen" brought down the house, Private Cuthill with "The Hills of Caledonia," Private Begent with "The Irish Tart" and Sergeant Jackson with "The Maid of the Mill" concluded the first part of the programme.

* * * * *

The second part was occupied by "H" Company's Minstrel Troupe which looked exceedingly well in minstrel costume. Their songs were capitally rendered, whilst the jokes were very funny and caused roars of laughter. The following was the Minstrel programme:—

Opening Chorus ... ... "Darkies Jubilee." THE TROUPE.

Comic Song ... ... "Dinah she said, Yah." PRIVATE GLOSSOP.

Song ... ... "To the battle-field." PRIVATE BOVILL.

Song ... ... "Half-past nine." CORPORAL ADAMS.

Song ... ... "Norah, my village Queen." PRIVATE THOMPSON.

Comic Song ... ... "Dandy, Dandy, Donoghue." PRIVATE WEBSTER.

Song ... ... "Meet me Katie with a Kiss." PRIVATE MOORE.

Comic Song ... ... "In." CORPORAL ROSE.

Song ... ... "Kiss me and whisper Good night." PRIVATE BEGENT.

Closing Chorus ... ... "Fare-thee-well." THE TROUPE.

Interlocutor: Lance-Corporal Robinson.
Bones: Private Webster.
Tumbo: Private Glossop.
Banjos: Corporal Adams and Private Thompson.

Great praise is due to "H" Company's Minstrel Troupe for the trouble they have taken and the amusement they have afforded during their stay in Fort Lahore. This most enjoyable concert was brought to a close by all present singing God Save the Queen.

* * * * *

"H" Company bade farewell to the Fort on the 7th instant, marching out under the command of 2nd Lieutenant W. J. B. Tweedie, "E" Company having arrived in relief under command of 2nd Lieutenant A. H. Maclean. Changing quarters was conducted under very unfavourable circumstances, the day being very wet and in consequence, the baggage could not be moved until a late hour.

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Yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions for the year from the following:—

Capt. A. F. Mackenzie.

Lieutenant and Adjutant H. P. Moulton-Barrett.

———:o:———

Half-yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

T. Beck, Esq., Dalhousie.
Gunner Lee., 46th F. B. R. A.

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

—o—

We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following :—

"The Soldier."
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.)
"Onrs" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The XXX" (1st East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Lancashire Lad" (47th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (2nd East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Sphinx" (75th Gordon Highlanders).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers.)
"The Aldershot News."

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COMPANY AGENTS.

—o—

"A" Company—Private Watson.
"B" " — " Cassels.
"C" " —Lance-Corporal Stewart.
"D" " — " " Rankin.
"E" " —Private Fletcher.
"F" " —Lance-Corporal Baldwin.
"G" " —Private Parker.
"H" " —Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Lance-Corporal Walsh.
Dalhousie Depôt—Private Learmont.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

—o—

The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line* :—

Locally ...	Per month	...	2 annas.
	„ quarter	...	6 „
	„ half-year	...	12 „
	„ year		Re. 1-8 „
With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union. N. C. O.'s and men of the regiment.			Rs. 2 per annum.
Officers and others not connected with the regiment.			Rs. 3 per annum.

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NOTA BENE.

—o—

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

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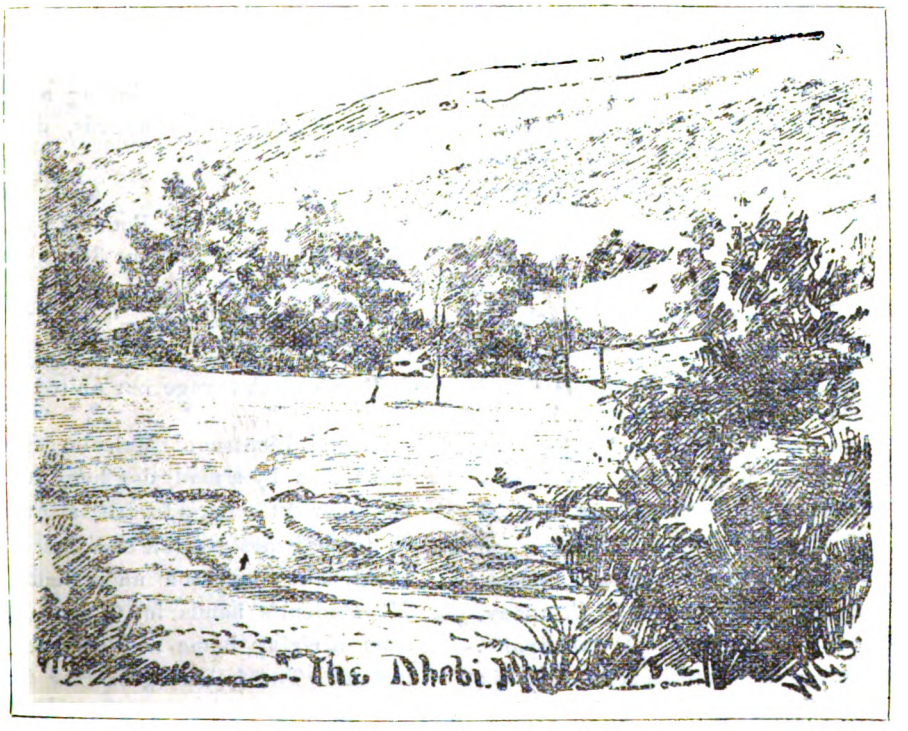
XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 8.—Vol. I. DALHOUSIE,—AUGUST 31st, 1894. Price, 2 Annas.



The Polo Ground.

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SKIRLS

ONE of our Volunteer Battalions—the Fifth (First Argyll)—is second on the list of the 213 Volunteer Battalions who have been exercised in musketry during the last twelve months. Their figure of merit is 233·62 for Individual, with 64·41 for Field Practices.

* * * * * *

Second Lieutenant W. D. Villiers-Stuart, Unattached List, will, upon arrival in this country, be attached to the Battalion for one year's duty preparatory to joining the Staff Corps.

* * * * * *

Major Fetherstonhaugh made an inspection of "C" Company on the completion of their Military Training on Monday, 23rd ultimo. Captain A. F. Mackenzie was in command of the Company which was inspected on the Depôt parade ground.

* * * * * *

The Band and Casuals completed Musketry on the 23rd ultimo, ninety-six men being exercised; their average for Individual Practices is 126·0, with 43·52 for Field Practices. Four of the party are marksmen, Privates T. Dunmore and C. Kerr, with 191 points each, the former wearing the "gold guns" owing to having the least number of misses; Privates D. Gillon 180, and F. Johnson 175; three of these, Dunmore, Kerr and Johnson belong to "A" Company, Gillon being a representative of "D" Company. Of the remainder, seventeen are first class, fifty-six second class, and nineteen third class shots. The weather during the whole course was very unfavourable. The Band, who usually boast three or four marksmen, were most unfortunate, several of their best shots failing completely.

This is perhaps accounted for by the fact that their services were in great demand at the various dances held in the station, when on these occasions they did not return to camp till an early hour in the morning, and frequently went to the ranges without obtaining a proper amount of rest. Late hours are not conducive to good shooting, and it is a pity that several good shots should have been so unfairly handicapped.

* * * * * *

A stray bullet found its way into the yard belonging to the Garrison Cells the other day whilst the casuals were volley firing on the upper range; the bullet which was spent fell quite harmlessly and must have ricocheted up the *khud*.

* * * * * *

On the night of the 25th ultimo the bachelors of Dalhousie gave a ball in the Assembly Rooms, which was a great success. The room was most tastefully decorated with trophies of the various arms of the service, including a 9-pr. field gun, Artillery and Cavalry swords, dirks, and claymores.

* * * * * *

Colonel Trotter left Bombay by the P. and O. Steamship *Oriental* on the 31st ultimo.

The following telegram was received from him at head-quarters:—"Good-bye to all;" to which the Adjutant wired in reply:—"Good-bye and a pleasant voyage our united wish."

* * * * * *

Second Lieutenant Malcolm Stevenson, who was bitten by a mad dog here on the 9th June last and went to Paris for treatment, has succumbed to that most terrible of diseases, hydrophobia. Lieutenant Stevenson underwent treatment at M. Pasteur's hands for fifteen days, and died after arriving home at Birkenhead on the 1st instant. The following extract from Battalion Orders of the 3rd instant announced his demise:

"It is with the deepest regret that the Commanding Officer has to record the death of second Lieutenant Malcolm Stevenson, a regret that he feels sure will be shared alike by all who

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knew him. Second Lieutenant M. Stevenson has served in the Second Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders for upwards of four years, during which time by his kindliness of disposition and genial temperament he has endeared himself to all."

* * * * * *

Private Adcock, "B" Company, on Tuesday, 31st ultimo, succeeded in bringing to a successful issue the 220 yards flat race for Rs. 100 a side, which had been arranged between him and Lance-Corporal Hoare, Seaforth Highlanders attached to our Band.

* * * * * *

On Tuesday, 31st ultimo, "B" Company and a number of casuals, principally signallers, commenced its annual Field Training under Captain Sydney Robinson.

Captain Robinson is a most able lecturer, and on the first day, by numerous appropriate military anecdotes, succeeded in illustrating in a most vivid manner the necessity for the development of the three principal attributes of a soldier—discipline, marching, and shooting—all of which have made the British soldier the excellent "fighting machine" that he has proved himself, and for the development of which military training is specially designed.

* * * * * *

Sergeant Ronald R. Stewart passed in subjects (*a*) and (*b*) for promotion to Second Lieutenant on Monday, 6th instant. Sergeant Stewart passed most satisfactorily, getting a very high number of marks.

* * * * * *

Captain Mackenzie and Lieutenants MacNeill and Malcolm, who returned from leave last month, had excellent sport during the time hey were away after big game. Captain Mackenzie and Lieutenant MacNeill spent their leave in the Central Provinces, their bag consisting of three tigers, two bears, a leopard, four bison, one four-horned antelope, two barking and two spotted deer, one wild dog, one boar, eighteen black buck and nine ravine deer. Lieutenant Malcolm went further afield crossing the *Kalapani* spending his leave in Somali Land. He also made a capital bag, consisting of two bison, eight onyx, six gazelle, five gerenook, six spring-bok, four Clarkes gazelle, two hartebuste, one lesser koodoo, two various and one spotted, hyena, and one dik-dak.

* * * * * *

The members of the "Pride of Sutherland Lodge" paid their brethren of "The Mountain Spring" a surprise visit on the evening of Wednesday, 8th instant, when with song and recitations a very convivial evening was spent.

* * * * * *

The Right and Left Half of "B" Company opposed each other during night operations on Tuesday, 8th instant, the former defending, whilst the latter attacked Dalhousie. The defending force, which held an almost impregnable position commanding the Church and Post Office, and roads that diverge therefrom, were fortunately victorious and Dalhousie was thus saved from the ravishes of an invader.

* * * * * *

Some Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the First Battalion, Fourth Ghurkha Rifles, who are stationed at Bakloh, are being instructed in the mysteries of the art of signalling, by Corporal R. Millar, and appear to be remarkably bright and intelligent pupils.

* * * * * *

A quoiting match for Rs. 250 a side was decided on the Depôt parade ground on the afternoon of Saturday, 11th instant, between Private P. Walker, "A" Company, and Private Shaw, Seaforth Highlanders, resulting in a win for the former by eighteen points.

* * * * * *

A performance, for one night only, of the three-act comedy "Niobe," took place at the Assembly Rooms on the same evening. The caste was a strong one—consisting of officers and ladies of the station.

* * * * * *

Like other hill stations, Dalhousie has had more than its fair share of the monsoon rains, 73 inches having fallen up to date against 54 inches during the corresponding period of last year. Fortunately, the rather unpleasant

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landslips that have occurred at other summer resorts have not occurred here, though ominous rumblings have been heard from time to time down the *khuds*. To counteract the effects of the rains, revetting has been carried on with considerable success on some of the looser ground, and has prevented anything like a dangerous tendency to slide. The road connecting Dalhousie with the outer world, *viâ* Pathankot, however, has not been so fortunate, having suffered somewhat severely between here and the tonga stage at Duniera, the roadway over the slips in some places being only some twenty inches wide. Beyond this the road is heavy with mud, and tongas experience no little difficulty in travelling. No serious interruptions in the mail service have occurred up to the present.

* * * * * *

Major J. H. Campbell, although disappointed in obtaining leave last month, has at last been allowed to take a little relaxation from regimental duty and will not rejoin till the 15th October next.

* * * * * *

"Retreat" was played by the Pipers and Drummers for the first time since we have been here, on Tuesday, 14th instant. Quite a large number of troops turned out to witness the parade which will be repeated every Tuesday and Friday at "Reveillé," "Retreat," and first and last posts of "Tattoo."

* * * * * *

Second Lieutenant K. F. C. Marshall has been promoted Lieutenant, *vice* Lieutenant E. C. H. Grant, whose appointment to the Adjutancy of our First Battalion has been confirmed.

* * * * * *

The number of men who will leave the Battalion this year for the first class Army Reserve will be one hundred and one; whilst a draft of about one hundred and twenty men may be expected to join us from home.

* * * * * *

The 30th November, St. Andrew's Day, will in all probability be celebrated by a Highland Brigade dinner at the Montgomery Hall, Lahore, at which His Excellency the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief will be amongst the most distinguished of the guests.

Sergeant Kirk, of our First Volunteer Battalion (Renfrewshire), has won the "Graphic Cup" at Bisley, with a score of sixty-nine.

* * * * * *

A *matinée* performance took place in the Assembly Rooms on the 17th instant to which, owing to the kindly thoughtfulness of Mrs. Young, the troops in garrison were admitted free.

* * * * * *

Second Lieutenant A. H. Maclean has qualified at Kasauli as an Instructor in Army Signalling.

———:o:———

Drinks.

—o—

THE Canteen: smile ye, my merry comrades, and all yon steady old-fashioned "Dorers" do a quiet grin, and emulate the deeds of Marie Lloyd by "winking the other eye."

Who is there in the regiment that does not know the above-mentioned institution, so ably presided over by Private Gordon, better known as "G," assisted by his staff, the schroff, bearers, mehtars, and bhistee-wallahs, the latter, I believe, being considered indispensable to every well-regulated canteen; in case, however, any civilians should cast their eyes over this effusion, allow me to state that the canteen in question is the wet canteen. Of canteens there are two, the wet and the dry, the former being for the sale of beer and stout, and, in some cases, rum, to soldiers, while the latter is in reality a regimental grocer's shop without a spirit license.

On starting this subject, I was prompted by the desire of making "copy," and spurred on by thoughts of heavy remuneration, but I was utterly devoid of any systematic plan on which to base my description.

The hours at which the canteen is open vary in different regiments, in "ours" the first issue taking place from 12 to 12-45 P.M., when most of the regular frequenters are to be seen there. Now, a regular frequenter, dear reader, is by no means a bad character, on the contrary, he is usually a man who likes his pint of beer daily, and who has gumption (rather a good word "gumption") enough to know that if he spends all his pay in one night, a feat by no means difficult

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of performance, he must do without beer next day, unless he gets into debt; besides these men, you meet those that are suffering from what is usually termed "big heads" and who are sadly in want of a steadier—a steadier being really very good in its way—and one or even two are advisable, but if taken in excess the meaning of the word becomes reversed and they become unsteadiers. Twelve o'clock is also the time that most men "break the tack," especially when they have just come in from a long and dusty route-march, or from a long morning of military training. The second issue is from 1-30 till 2 P.M. and is chiefly patronised by men when money is plentiful, say, on pay-days, or after a successful quoit-match, and by those men whom the prophet describes as "eating beer," whilst the third and last issue is from 5-30 till 9-30 P.M., and it is then that the canteen is best worth visiting. Go in early, secure a quiet corner seat, and await developments.

Presently, in comes a "school," and after all are seated comfortably round a table, the quart pot passes steadily to and fro for the first hour or so, when probably an interruption takes place in the shape of an adjournment for supper, or the useful man (there is always a useful man in all schools) goes and fetches sandwiches round, after which the beer travels faster and faster, the voices become louder and louder, and presently one of the school obliges with a song, which is the signal for a general outbreak of all the budding Sims Reeves. Before closing time there is generally a fight or two, simply to relieve the monotony, and if the belligerents become too noisy or unruly the magic words "four of the picquet" usually lulls the storm and two soldiers pass from the vulgar gaze for two nights and a day, and when next seen they are usually in company with a spade or pickaxe.

There are only two recognized ways of drinking in the canteen; you must either be in a school, or be a "do-er"; being in a school, means drinking with several comrades, more of which anon, whilst being a do-er simply means drinking alone. Authorities differ as to the correct spelling of the latter term some say that the correct rendering of the word is "door" *i. e.*, "door-opener," that is to say, a sum sufficient to enable one to purchase a pint of beer, and thereby qualify him to stand at the bar and lay siege to the basins of his more favoured comrades, whilst others assert that "do-er" is the correct term, which takes its derivation from the Hindustani numeral "do"=2, *i. e.*, two annas, the standard price of a pint.

Regarding schools—different schools have different ways of working—for instance I knew of one school of ten men, who had one financier authorized to borrow all monies required by the school, and this man has borrowed as much as 50 or 60 rupees for the school, all faithfully repaid within a week; the school you see worked together and on their various pay-days the different members handed their entire pay to the financier, who in return submitted a balance sheet at the end of each week, that balance sheet would compare very favourably for audit, with many of those of the A. T. A. However, that school may have been an exception, for I heard of another one, which, on persuading one man to borrow for the community, left him in the lurch —*experientia docet*—which is, being translated, "once bitten, twice shy." The canteen, I think, might aptly be described as a regimental financial thermometer; on pay-days it is crowded and the usual cry is "Four tickets, schroff!" which cry dwindles down to "Two tickets" on the next day, and possibly on the third day, a pile of copper is quietly placed before the schroff and a pint ticket taken in exchange. The canteen, described by tee-totalers as a necessary evil, is a boon to steady soldiers, and the man that takes a pint of beer when he requires it and who knows when to stop, is in my opinion better fitted to cope with this climate than he who blows himself out with aërated waters, made goodness knows how, where, or of what.

Before closing I am glad to hear that there is no truth in the rumour that we are about to lose "G," for he has filled his present position for over 6½ years with credit to himself and satisfaction to all. MAC.

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Colonel P. D. Trotter.

—o—

WE publish this month a portrait of our late esteemed Commanding Officer, Colonel Philip Durham Trotter, who left us on the 23rd July, accompanied by the good wishes of every Officer, Non-Commissioned Officer and man of the Battalion, after a period of nearly thirty years' service with the 93rd Highlanders. We take the following biographical sketch from the *Broad Arrow*:—

Beginning his military career some thirty years ago in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, "P. D. Trotter," as he is familiarly known, occupies to-day the proud position of Lieutenant-Colonel commanding that Regiment, now known as the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Not only has Colonel Trotter attained a high military post, but by dint of quiet, assiduous, and persevering industry, he has succeeded in obtaining a social status which could hardly have been anticipated for one who was simply a Scotch gentleman without high connections, estates, or parliamentary interest.

"Born in June 1844, he entered the army as ensign in the 53rd Regiment, in October 1864, but was transferred to the 93rd Highlanders in the same year, joining that regiment in India a few months later, and returning to England with it after some five years' stay in the East, during which time he devoted himself greatly to shikar. Lieutenant, 1st February 1868, he was appointed Instructor of Musketry in May 1876, holding that post till February 1878. From 1870 to 1879 he did duty with his regiment in various parts of the United Kingdom, and missed no opportunity of improving his position alike in civil and military life. He was evidently—we will not say a rising or pushing but—an advancing young man. Good looking, clever, smart, and able and sensible enough to keep a horse, he was always available as a galloper to any General who might be in need of such a glorified orderly. Thus he became known and appreciated by those who could further his interests. In 1879 he went with his regiment to Gibraltar, and being ever possessed by a desire to see as much as he could of the world, and actuated by instincts which guided him rightly in the selection of friends, he made an excursion in Morocco in the suite of our envoy Sir James Drummond Hay. The result was some acquaintance with Arabic, and a book on Morocco, which was well reviewed. This, indeed was not the first time he had written for the public. Having a facile pen and keen powers of observation, and happening to be in France during a short portion of the war 1870-71, he did some military correspondence for a provincial newspaper. Indeed, on subsequent occasions, he wrote now and again for the press, but always *sub rosâ*, for he was well aware that those who wield the pen are not mightily esteemed at Horse Guards.

"Captain, in February 1878, he became Major in October 1882, and in the beginning of 1884 received an appointment to the Egyptian Army. Fortune favoured him, for in the autumn of that year took place the Gordon Relief Expedition, and Major Trotter was employed in the lines of communication, where his ability, firmness, and energy rendered him most useful. Commandant at Dal and Kaibar—he performed his difficult duties with so much success that he was mentioned in despatches, and received the brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel in addition to the medal and clasp and the Khedive's Bronze Star. Returning to England in February 1886, he, in July 1889, became Colonel by brevet. The following year he succeeded to the command of the 93rd Highlanders, and in a few months later went to India with it, where he has ever since remained. As a Commanding Officer he has been a great success, and the famous regiment at the head of which he is, has fully maintained its old reputation for discipline and general efficiency. It has continued to be a happy regiment, for Colonel Trotter combines kindness, conciliatory manner, consideration and good-fellowship with firmness and necessary severity. In June, this year, he will have completed his tenure of command, and will have to quit the regiment in which he has served continuously for nearly thirty years, beginning as a somewhat cheeky Subaltern, and ending as a beloved and respected Commanding Officer. It is to be hoped, for the good of the service, that he will receive higher employment, and amongst his claims is the fact that he can make an excellent speech, which in these days is a desirable accomplishment in a senior officer."

Colonel Trotter was the beau ideal of a Commanding Officer, cool and confident on parade, strict in meeting out justice to delinquents at the orderly room, and taking almost a fatherly interest in the welfare of his men and the sports of the regiment. He is the possessor of the Egyptian Medal for 1884-85, the Khedive's Bronze Star, and has also the third class Order of the Medjidie.

Our heartiest wishes go with him and, though the expression be hackneyed, we cannot think of any better toast than, "Health, Wealth and Prosperity to Colonel P. D. Trotter."

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Frae The Auld Wife.

—o—

Ma Dear Mither,

Hoo's a' wi' ye, I hae your letter, dated 3rd June, 1893, afore me, and noo think o' answerin' it. As ye wull hae seen by the papers we hae left Dagshai and Umballa, and are noo scaittered atween Meean Meer, Dalhousie and Lahore. I am up at Dalhousie and am gey comfortable. The auld Colonel has left us, and folk say Major Fetherstonhaugh wull get command, deed, an' I hope he may, for he luks efter a sodger an' so does his gude wife.

Ye ken Alec McBouncer, my chum, wha joined the 74th, weel, we hae aye sent a line tae each ither, but his last three were jist naethin but fitba—fitba—fitba, a' about them batin' us at Simla, so last time I wrote I simply tell't him that in 1885 and 1886 oor lads played 21 matches, won 20 and one drawn, makin' 127 goals and giein' 4, and askit him if he cud bate that, dae ye ken, mither, I haena had a word frae him syne.

We hae had twa matches here, twa o' oors agin twa o' the 78th, yin at rinnin' and yin at quoiting, and I'm gled tae tell ye we won baith, oor man at the fit-race had twa-three yairds tae spare, and at quoits wee Pato Walker jist landed on the heid when he wanted, and landed twa hunner and fifty rupees as weel.

I hae nae mair news, but as I'm gettin' mair pay noo thro' the rupee drappin', I'll try and send somethin' hame, and gin ye cud send me thro' some guid socks, I wudna mind payin' the postage.

Noo mither I'll conclude wi love tae Rab, Tibbie, and the bairns.

Believe me,
Your lovin son,
JOCK.

———:o:———

Sport.

—o—

Running.—On Tuesday, the 31st ultimo, a match between Private Adcock, "B" Company, and Lance-Corporal Hoare, Seaforth Highlanders, for Rs. 100 a side, came off on the polo ground. Distance 220 yards. Both men were got off to a capital start, Hoare starting in the American style. The latter immediately assumed the lead, which he kept until about fifty yards from home, when Adcock came with a rush to the front, and won by about a yard and a half. The winner was trained by Private Dominic Kelly, and the loser by Bandsman Farley. Private Roberts, East Surrey Regiment, was starter, and Sergeant J. H. Symcox, stakeholder.

* * * * *

Quoits.—A match for Rs. 50 a side, open upwards, having been tied at the beginning of the month on behalf of Private Peter Walker, "A" Company, and Private Hugh Shaw, Seaforth Highlanders; the above men met on the Depôt Parade Ground on Saturday, the 11th instant, to decide the question of supremacy, the stakes having, in the meantime, been raised to Rs. 250 a side. Shaw won the toss and led off, placing the first two heads to his credit, but Walker who by this time had got into the swing, took the lead, and succeeded in notching six points before he was displaced. Shaw fell away from the start, greatly disappointing his backers, who expected a good show for their money. Walker, who at times played very slack, ultimately won by 18 points. The winner was papered by Private Hutchison, "A" Company, while Private J. O'Donnell, Seaforth Highlanders, looked after the interests of Shaw.

Private Grey, Seaforth Highlanders, was referee, and Sergeant Behrens, "The Buffs," was stake holder.

———:o:———

In Memoriam. M. S., August 1894.

—o—

Beloved alike by all who knew his frank and open heart,
His nature free from jealousy, from selfishness apart,
His energy, his love for sport, alas! we mourn the end
Of one, whom we had but to know, to reckon as a friend.
By cruel mischance his life he lost, by one unhappy blow,
A regiment is plunged in grief, a household steeped in woe,
A chair at mess is vacant, another takes his place,
But though long years roll by they shall his memory not efface.
"In pace requiescat" in thy grave beyond the sea,
Farewell young Malcolm Stevenson, a fond farewell to thee!

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Regimental Gazette.

Promotions.—No. 2808 Lance-Sergeant J. Soutar "B" Company; No. 3151 Corporal C. Stubbs, "H" Company; and No. 2735 Lance-Sergeant J. Tyndall, "E" Company, to be Sergeants. No. 3133 Lance-Sergeant W. Murdoch, "H" Company, and No. 2904 Lance-Sergeant J. Stewart, "F" Company taken on the paid establishment of their rank. No. 3526 Lance-Corporal H. Stimson, "D" Company; No. 3192 Lance-Corporal G. Gray, "G" Company; and No. 2931 Lance-Corporal W McNab, "E" Company; to be Corporals. No. 4209 Lance-Corporal A. Campbell, "A" Company; No. 2430 Lance-Corporal A. Miller, "H" Company; and 2484 Lance-Corporal A. Forshawe, "H" Company, taken on the paid establishment of their rank.

Appointments.—No. 3294 Private Gordon, "D" Company, to be Drummer.

Employment.—No. 1908 Sergeant W. McCulloch to be Cantonment Conservancy Sergeant.

G. C. Pay.—No. 370 Lance-Sergeant W. Goodwin, "H" Company, eligible for 4*d.*; No. 244 Lance-Corporal J. Lindsay, "F" Company, restored 3*d.*; No. 2908 Private W. Elliott; No. 4868 Private H. Gifford; No. 2520 Private J. McNiven; and No. 2968 Private P. Carroll, "A" Company; No. 2909 Private D. Pullar, No. 2852 Private C. McLaren; and No. 2896 Private J. Brand, "B" Company, No. 2873 Private D. Gillon; No. 2929 Private W. Petrie; No. 2949 Private H. Maddox; and No. 2639 Private F. Connelly, "D" Company; No. 2914 Private G. McTavish; No. 2967 Private A. McIntosh; No. 2969 Private D. McRae; and No. 2958 Private J. Coutts, "G" Company; No. 2919 Private J. Jamieson; No. 2915 Private A. Sandilands, and No. 2850 Private C. Moore, "H" Company, granted 2*d.* No. 3808 Private J. Allison, No. 3946 Private T. Nelson, "A" Company, No. 3552 Private A. Selley, No. 3735 Private G. Stewart; No. 4413 Private G. Fraser, and No. 3843 Private J. Barton, "B" Company; No. 4847 Private D. Goldie, and No. 3123 Private W. Johnson, "C" Company; No. 4155 Private H. Nelson; No. 4313 Private J. Ferguson, and No. 4878 Private W. McLauchlan, "D" Company; No. 3988 Private H. Brown, and No. 3784 Private J. Lane, "F" Company; No. 3711 Private H. Thomas, and No. 4119 Private R. Martin, "H" Company, granted 1*d.*; No. 316 Private J. Robertson, "A" Company; No. 2870 Private G. Walls, "B" Company; No. 3402 Private P. O'Donnell; No. 3926 Private C. Ayres, and No. 3102 Private J. McDonald, "D" Company; No. 2492 Private F. Martin, "G" Company; No. 2541 Private C. McLean; No. 2927 Private C. McLean, No. 3496 Private F. Sinclair; No. 3359 Private A. Sparks; No. 2530 Private P. Stewart; No. 3272 Private W. Sear; No. 3183 Private G. Shipman; No. 2867 Private J. Campbell, and No. 2598 Private H. Lavery, restored 1*d.*

Employment.—No. 2969 Private P. Carroll and No. 3805 Private J. Mitchell, "A" Company, to be employed on the Garrison Police; No. 3260 Private A. Royffe, and No. 3223 Private R. Copeland, "A" Company, to be employed as Hospital Orderlies.

Extension of Service.—No. 2519 Sergeant W. Smith and No. 2528 Sergeant J. Blair, "D" Company, have been permitted to extend their service to twelve years with the colours.

Certificates of Education.—No. 2571 Lance-Corporal J Walsh, "G" Company; No. 3006 Corporal J. Ewan, "F" Company; No. 4269 Lance-Corporal F. Fressanges, "E" Company; No. 3794 Private J. Mathieson, "F" Company, and No. 3913 Private A. Munn, "A" Company, have been granted first class certificates of education.

Musketry Prize Statements.

"G" COMPANY.

		£	s.	d.
No. 3771,	Private G. Emmett	1	0	0
„ 2590,	„ W. Laidlaw	0	15	0
„ 2781,	„ H. Allen	0	12	6
„ 2803,	„ W. Young	0	10	6
„ 4137,	„ J. Hindmarsh	0	8	0
„ 2441,	„ J. McGovern	0	6	6
„ 3610,	Corporal J. Stobbie	0	6	6
„ 2432,	Private A. McArthur	0	6	0
„ 3062.	„ G. Sweeney	0	6	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section.				
No. 3610,	Corporal J. Stobbie	0	11	4½
Commander of Second Best Shooting Section.				
No. 487,	Color Sergeant J. Wight ...	0	5	8

Band and Casuals.

		£	s.	d.
No. 3415,	Private J. Dunmore, "A" Coy., ...	1	0	0
„ 3084	„ C. Kerr "A" Coy., ...	0	17	6
„ 2873,	„ D. Gillon "D" Coy., ...	0	13	6
„ 3331,	„ F. Johnson "A" Coy., ...	0	10	0
„ 2571,	Lance-Corporal, J. Walsh G. Coy.,...	0	8	0
„ 3665,	Private A. Brotherstone, "G" Coy.,...	0	6	0
„ 4330,	„ J. Kerr, "B" Coy., ...	0	6	0
„ 2145,	„ W. K. Learmont, "A" Coy.,...	0	5	0
„ 454,	Corporal G. Chittendeu, "B" Coy.,...	0	5	0
„ 4050,	Private E. Lillywhite, "B" Coy., ...	0	5	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section.				
„ 3053,	Corporal W. Matthews, "A" Coy.,...	0	12	0
Commander of Second Best Shooting Section.				
	Corporal A. Watters, "C" Coy., ...	0	6	0

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Dalhousie.

(*Continued.*)

—o—

The scene of action, or rather sketching, this month is changed, and if the reader will accompany me I will take him, or her, as the case may be, down some 2,000 feet, past the convalescent depôt, through Bannikhet where the Buffs are stationed, and on till the sound of rushing water meets your ear, and after successfully negotiating a good sized stream we will find ourselves on the Dhobie Flats or Polo Ground; both terms being equally correct, as the piece of ground in question is used by the dhobies to cleanse the wearing apparel of the troops, and also by the officers to practice polo on. It is also the scene of many battles at cricket and football, and it was here that the race between Private Adcock of ours and Lance-Corporal Hoare of the Seaforths, took place. The ground is most picturesquely situated, being surrounded on all sides by glorious wooded slopes, and were it only nearer barracks, it would, I am sure, be far more extensively patronized, as it is, it is almost a Sabbath day's journey getting to it, and the return is still longer, being entirely all uphill, the canteen at Bannikhet makes a very good half-way house—if you are lucky enough to pass it when it is open. I can only give a very rough idea of the size of the Polo Ground, but I might roughly say that it is between three or four acres. Should you pass through it whilst the dhobies are at work, you will see some most wonderful and curious articles flounting in the breeze. Out of curiosity I one day subjected an article that caught my eye to a closer scrutiny than usual and came to the conclusion that whatever it was, it was evidently not intended for the use of Highland Regiments.

(*To be continued.*)

The late Lord X——, having been commissioned by a friend to procure a performer on the bag-pipes, applied, while in attendance upon the Queen at Balmoral, to Her Majesty's piper, a fine stalwart Highlander; and on being asked what kind of article was wanted, his lordship said in reply, "just such another as yourself." The consequential celt, looking as stately and important as possible, calmly rejoined, "There may pe plenty o' lairds like yersel' but very few sic pipers as me."!

At the Fort.

—o—

SO far "E" Company's sojourn at the fort has been fairly uneventful, even the Orderly room,—usually a popular resort of the fiery spirits of the canteen a couple of days after pay-day—has been almost deserted, and prisoners have been few and far between. Cricket is the only recreation to be had, and this usually in the cool of the evening, it being far too hot during the day for any exercise requiring more exertion than lying under a punkah.

* * * * *

On the 28th ult. "E" Company gave a variety performance which was well patronised, and went off most successfully with Acting Sergeant-Major Meston in the Chair.

A song, the "Telephone," by Private Baxter, opened the first part of the programme, the same performer also singing the "Lamp-lighter" in the second part. Lance-Corporal Shaw, Derbyshire Regiment, gave "Maggie Murphy's Home", Corporal Hynch, "Ere the lamps are lit" and "The Miner's Dream", which have been sung before, though seldom better, by the same artiste. Drummer Smeaton's song "The Forty-Twa" was worthy of notice. Corporal Adams and Lance-Corporal Gosling both sang a couple of their old favourites, whilst Privates Granger and Kitchen helped to fill the programme and amuse the audience. Private McGarvie gave one of his touching recitations, Mrs. and Miss North's songs were repeatedly encored, Private Scullion sang "After the Ball" in good style, Sergeant Rossiter obliged twice, whilst Doctor Keatly sang "Killaloe." The concert lasted till nearly midnight, the National Anthem and a vote of thanks to the chairman concluding the entertainment.

* * * * *

"E" Company gave their second grand variety performance in the Shalamar Palace on the 11th instant, the impromptu theatre being most tastefully decorated with flowers, &c., and presented a most gay appearance. The audience was quite a large one, the Commanding Officer, and many others from Mian Mir, and numerous friends from the vicinity of the fort being present.

As on the previous occasion the Acting Sergeant-Major occupied the Chair and had provided an excellent programme which Private Baxter

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opened by singing "Balaclava" in stentorian tones, Private Wallen sang "Rothesay Bay" so feelingly, that it caused tears to well to the eyes of that part of the audience who hailed from "abune" that sweet locality. Private McGarvie's recitations the "Quack Doctor" and "Heads v. Hands," kept the house in continuous roars of laughter during their recitals, his "Cure All" being undoubtedly a wonderful medicine.

A new feature in our fort concerts was the Highland Fling and Sword Dance exceptionally well executed by Private J. McLean, who was accompanied on the bag-pipes by Lieutenant McNeill. Second Lieutenant Tweedie again gave "The Laird o' Cockpen" in his usual good form. Corporals Hynch and Adams added largely to the programme, their songs being features of the evening, whilst Mrs. North, who sang two songs, Doctor Keatly, Sergeant Haskell, Private Granger and many others kept up the amusement till nearly mid-night.

* * * * *

There is unfortunately a rather large proportion of the detachment in hospital, and quinine has been issued daily as a preventative against fever and ague.

* * * * *

A cricket match was attempted on Thursday, 9th instant, between the "non-coms" and men, but owing to the lassitude and general indisposition of the majority of the players the game had to be abandoned. On the previous Wednesday "G" Company paid a visit to the Fort from Mian Mir and had an easy victory over a native team by five wickets.

* * * * *

"E" Company has had the misfortune to have the first death at Fort Lahore, Private Fletcher falling a victim to enteric fever here on the 18th instant. The pipes and drums of the Mian Mir Wing were in attendance at the funeral.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

THAT the "early bird catches the worm."

That poultry can be obtained at the "dâk."

That a Sergeant was "chancing it" with a khud—stick.

That it congratulates "Villikins" on his promotion.

That "his Dinah" is now "senior sub."

That Adcock can move.

That the band have discovered that.

That rice puddings and "duffs" are good for training on.

That the quoiting match was a good affair.

That "red top" did not put on a white shirt for nothing.

That "Sandy" was giving out his weight.

That "Peter" kept cool.

That Shaw's papers were too large.

That an occasional one from Heaven did not frighten Walker.

That it is going through military training.

That the foot-ball players and clerks are getting fat.

That a Lance-Corporal was promoted for a night attack.

That the "Pride" are getting back to their old form.

That they have a "wee house o' their ain."

That it is in Lucknow street.

That its cousin has nothing to say this month.

———:o:———

Editorial.

—o—

IT is with the deepest regret that we have to record the sad death of Lieutenant Malcolm Stevenson from the effects of a bite from a mad dog; the event is of so recent an occurrence to require no recapitulation. Lieutenant Stevenson was a model Company Officer, interesting himself in all Company events and taking a foremost place in both shooting and cricketing, and the regiment in general, and "A" Company in particular, has sustained a severe loss in his untimely end.

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We are glad to be able to record the successes of two of ours since our last issue, and both Privates Adcock and Walker deserve well of their comrades for upholding the name of the regiment so well.

* * * * *

Through the courtesy of J. Wilton Gonsalves, Esq., we have received quite a folio of music of his own composition and are already contemplating a series of combined attacks on the first unprotected piano. The Rinking Waltz and Moonlit Ripples are exceedingly tuneful little pieces, simple yet very effective, whilst "The Baboo Volunteers," recently sung with such success by Assistant Surgeon Bracio at the Assembly Rooms here, is most amusing and possesses the advantage so rare amongst the numerous songs of the age of being "funny without being vulgar."

———:o:———

Ancient and Modern.

—o—

"You are old, Private Thomas" the young Rookie[1] said,
"And of years you must have seen some,
But yet you are still on your 'Nights in Bed.'[2]
Pray did you do wrong when still young?"

* * * *

"When quite a recruit," Private Thomas replied,
"The Canteen I frequented each night
And e'en at reveillé to get beer I tried
Which the authorities did not think right."

* * * *

"For such an old soldier" the Rookie then said,
"How comes it of badges[3] you've none?
You're nearly T.E.[4], you've grey hairs on your head,
Pray what serious crime have you done?

* * * *

"As I answered before", Private Thomas replied,
"The beer was the cause of my fall,
And for nearly eight years," he said, and he sighed,
"I was drunk every night at roll-call[5]."

* * * *

"Were you never Lance Jack?[6]" then the Rookie exclaimed,
"Did promotion to you ne'er come round?
Or had you no wish in R. O's[7] to be named?
For a smarter man could not be found."

* * * *

"Oh boy" exclaimed Thomas, "don't badger me so?
It is true that I once was Lance Jack,
But a Sergeant objected, and soon laid me low,
For at duty he said I was slack."

* * * *

"As luck was against you why did you extend,[8]?"
Quoth the youth, and sweetly he smiled?
But that query alas! did not matters mend,
Private Thomas just glared at that child.

Then seizing the youth with both of his hands
He gave him just one "with the head[9]"
And the news floated softly over the sands,
That the boy had been carried to bed.

MAC.

1. A soldier just joined.
2. Military terms applied to men doing guards.
3. G. C. Badges awarded to well-conducted soldiers.
4. *i. e.*, Time-expired, applied to men having finished their term of service with the colours.
5. At Tattoo 10 p.m. every soldier has to answer his name.
6. *i. e.*, Lance-Corporal, first step towards promotion.
7. R. O.'s Regimental Orders in which all promotions appear.
8. Extend the period of service with the colours.
9. A mode of attack commonly practised in Glasgow.

Football.

—o—

THE Regimental team is still steadily training for the Simla Tournament which will commence on the 17th September next. Matches between the first and second teams take place about twice a week on the Polo ground, whilst on the remaining days running round the Mall, and practice kicking on the Depôt Parade Ground is the order. The team is in excellent condition as far as wind is concerned.

The following will in all probability represent the battalion at Simla, and it is to be hoped that they will use their utmost endeavour to bring the Durand Cup once more to Mian Mir.

Forwards.—Privates Duffin, McArthur, Reid, McManus and O'Donnell.

Half-backs—Lance-Corporal McKimm and Privates McLaren and Singleton.

Backs.—Privates Gordon and Watson.

Goal.—Private Whitecross.

Privates Kerr, Walls, Sturgess and McCormack will be reserve men.

———:o:———

DEATHS.

Stevenson.—At Birkenhead, on the 1st instant, Second Lieutenant Malcolm Stevenson, of rabial paralysis.

West.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 9th instant, No. 3660 Private G. West, "G" Company, of heat apoplexy.

Fletcher.—At the Station Hospital, Fort Lahore, on the 18th instant, No. 3680 Private T. Fletcher, "E" Company, of enteric fever.

———:o:———

The Left Wing at Mian Mir.

—o—

COLONEL Trotter paid a farewell visit here on his way down country.

On the morning of his arrival from Dalhousie he inspected the troops in barracks and left the same afternoon by train for Bombay. Despite the excessive heat a large number of the men saw him off at the Railway Station and wished him *bon voyage*.

* * * * * *

Captain R. L'E. McKerrell and Second Lieutenant W. J. B. Tweedie have gone on leave till the 15th October.

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Dalhousie Depot Notes.

—o—

THE Army Temperance Association here gave a grand dance in the Assembly Rooms on Wednesday, 1st instant. A very fair sprinkling of officers and residents of Dalhousie were present, whilst the Temperance men were in full force and dancing was kept up till an early hour the following morning. Corporal Seppens, 18th Hussars, and Private McAllister, Ninety-Third, were Masters of Ceremonies, and arranged the dance programme, whilst a most efficient committee were answerable for the decorations and the refreshments; leaving nothing to be desired.

* * * * *

Mrs. Blackett, wife of our popular Commandant, died on Sunday, 12th instant, and was buried on the evening of the same date; a number of Sergeants and men from the Depôt attending the funeral. Universal sympathy is expressed for Major Blackett in his sad bereavement.

* * * * *

The bi-weekly dances held in the Army Temperance Room here are, despite the wet weather, extensively patronised by those of terpsichorean proclivities. These dances do much to prevent that *ennui* from which all suffer at this particular trying season of the year.

* * * * *

The Corporals and Lance-Corporals held a smoking concert in the Canteen on the night of Saturday, 18th instant, inviting a goodly number of Corporals of the Garrison to partake in the festivities. About eighty Non-Commissioned Officers altogether were present and a good evening's entertainment took place.

After Corporal T. Gillespie, Ninety-Third, amidst loud cheering, had taken the chair, Bombardier Maclennan, R. A., started the concert with an overture on his banjo; Lance-Corporal Marsh, Borders, followed with "Sailing merrily home," and Lance-Corporal Rouse, Seaforths, with "London Town." Corporal Stutely, "The Buffs," regretted that the Sergeant-Major could not be present, but stated that his non-attendance was due to the fact that a similar concert was taking place in the Sergeants' Mess. Corporal Richmond, Ninety-Third, gave "The County I'm leaving behind"; Corporal Browne, 18th Hussars, "The Shamrock Thistle and Rose"; Corporal Street, "The Buffs," "The Miner's Dream"; Corporal Clarke, Ninety-Third, "The Harbour Lights." A frugal supper succeeded the first part of the programme after which Lance-Corporal Quick, R. A., sang "Time to be merry"; Corporal Thomson, Borders, "A. Ricketty, Racketty Crew"; Corporal Stutely, "Loves old sweet song"; Lance-Corporal Williamson, Ninety-Third, "The Golden Shore"; Lance-Corporal McGuire, Borders, "Here's to the good old Whiskey"; Lance-Corporal MacGregor, Borders, recited "The Massacre at Cawnpore," which held the audience spell bound, and also "The Last Shot." A song, "The Soldier" by Lance-Corporal Pickett, Borders, was followed by "How d'do old boy" by Lance-Corporal Mitchell, Seaforths, and "Up to date" by Lance-Corporal King of the same regiment. After this Corporal Brown, Lance-Corporal McGuire and the Chairman, Corporal Gillespie, danced a series of "Sword dances," which brought the night's amusements to a close at a late hour.

———:o:———

Yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions, for one year from the following:—

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Charles Leslie, Bart., 2-4th Gurkha Rifles.

Captain and Adjutant F. H. G. Playfair (late 93rd Highlanders), 1st Hants Regiment.

———:o:———

Half-yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

Major Blackett, R. A.

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Sept 1894

9

V

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93

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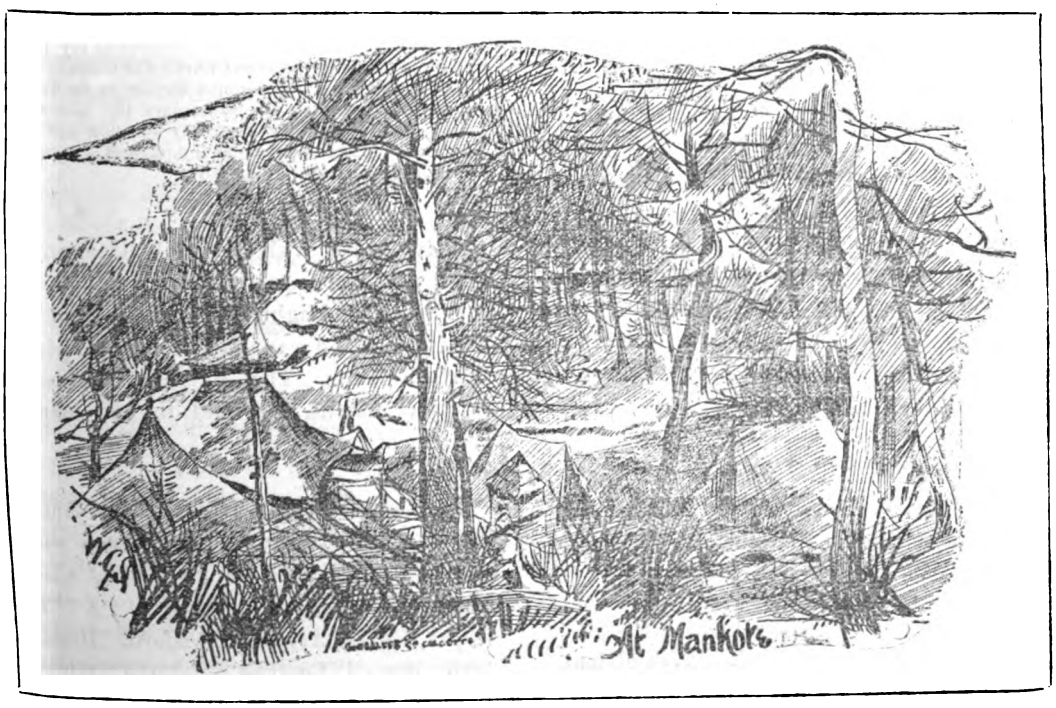
XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 9.—Vol. I. DALHOUSIE,—SEPTEMBER 30th, 1894. Price, 2 Annas



Mankote Camp.

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SKIRLS

ALL the companies of the wing up here have now finished Musketry, "C" Company, after frequent interruptions, completing their annual course on the 29th ultimo. Their average for individual practices is 127·99 and for field practices, as far as completed, 57·27. This average must be considered very good, considering the state of the weather during which some of the firing took place. Private James Brown (2773) again holds the "Company Guns" with a score of 194, Sergeant M. Garrigan being well up with 191, whilst Corporal W. Miller and Private Morrison also are marksmen.

* * * * * *

Color-Sergeant T. A. Swan has been awarded the Association Medal of the Regimental Branch of the A. T. A., and Private Chas. Brasenell, "B" Company, has been presented with a medal for merit by the Rev. J. H. Bateson, the General Secretary of the Association.

* * * * * *

Lance-Corporal J. Lee, "A" Company, has passed an examination in Punjabi.

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Before concluding military training "B" Company had a field day on Monday, 27th ultimo, over Bakrotah and adjoining hills, their opponents being "F" Company of the Border Regiment. The final inspection took place on the Depôt Parade ground on the 29th ultimo, Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh putting the Company through a most searching inspection.

A correspondent again writes:—

The Branch of the Independent Order of Rechabites in this station believes in making hay while the sun shines; the energy with which their officials cater for the amusement of the members and their friends affording an example by which many may profit.

Public meetings and entertainments have been held at regular intervals, and the popularity the "Order" has achieved is evident by the increased roll of membership since our last notice.

On Thursday, 23rd August, the "Tent" doors were thrown open at 8 o'clock, after all business had been transacted; a lecture, illustrating the officers' duties and the government of the Order, taking the form of questions and answers by the Past Chief Ruler and Chief Ruler (Bros. Crawford and Cassels) was listened to by all present with the deepest interest and attention; this was supplemented by a lengthy programme of songs, recitations, &c., those present testifying their appreciation by rounds of applause and frequent "encores." A short address was given by Rev. W. Scott, M. A., Presbyterian Chaplain, but perhaps the feature of the evening was an address by Rev. Mr. Patterson, whose droll anecdotes and quaint descriptions of native life caused much merriment and were heartily applauded. Among the performers were Bros. Crawford, Jack, Cook, Skinner, Irwin, Fieldhouse and others who were ably assisted by many friends. These "social evenings" have been largely attended, the above occasion calling together between 150 and 200 persons, among whom were several ladies, and it is needless to say the seating accommodation of the Iron Church was taxed to its utmost. The "Order" is doing yeoman service in the Temperance cause, and we wish its promoters the success they so justly deserve. Every Thursday evening the doors are thrown open to the public at 9 P. M., and a warm welcome awaits all who may pay a visit.

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Private P. Walker, "A" Company, again tried conclusions with Private Hugh Shaw of the Seaforth Highlanders at quoits on Monday, 3rd instant, and was again victorious, winning by thirteen points. The Match was arranged for the 1st instant, but had to be postponed on account of rain.

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At the Lahore Durbar, Lieutenant-Colonel Grant of the Seaforth Highlanders will be in command of the Viceroy's Escort, which will consist of the 11th Hussars, "A" Battery Royal Horse Artillery, Seaforth Highlanders, 18th Bengal Lancers, and the 28th Punjab Infantry.

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The majority of the troops taking part in the forthcoming Durbar will have reached Lahore by the 24th November. The 18th Hussars and "A" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, leave

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Umballa on the 7th November, arriving on the 24th, the 11th Hussars and "Q" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, leave Sialkote on the 19th November, also arriving on the same date. The 30th Field Battery leave Peshawar on the 27th October, the 68th Field Battery and "The Buffs" leave Jullundur on the 15th November, the 9th Bengal Lancers leave Rawal Pindi on the 7th November, the Seaforth Highlanders leave Ferozepore on the 9th November, and the 29th Punjab Infantry leave Peshawar on the 26th October, all arriving on the 23rd. The 71st Field Battery and the 18th Bengal Lancers leave Ferozepore on the 20th November, arriving on the 24th, the 15th Bengal Cavalry from Multan, on the 5th November, and the Norfolk Regiment and Somerset Light Infantry from Umballa on the 6th November, also arriving on the 24th. The Gordon Highlanders leave Rawal Findi on the 5th November, arriving on the 22nd, the 2/1 Gurkha Rifles leave Dharmsala on the 6th November, arriving on the 20th, the 1/4 Gurkha Rifles leave Bakloh on the 7th November, arriving on the 21st, the second Battalion of the same regiment leaving and arriving one day later; whilst the 36th Sikhs, who leave Delhi on the 5th November, arrive on the 24th. No arrangements have as yet been made respecting the Imperial Service Troops, but they will no doubt arrive about the same time.

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Teams of two sections of "C" Company—Nos. 2 and 3—held a Shooting Match on the 5th instant for Rs. 50 aside, the "Clock" Section proving victorious.

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On the following day our Corporals met the Corporals of the Depôt on the range; but owing to rain only one distance could be fired at, our representatives scoring the most points. A convivial evening in the Mess took place after the shooting.

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Major J. D. Fetherstonhaugh has been gazetted Lieutenant-Colonel, from the 23rd. July, the welcome intelligence being published in Battalion orders of the 7th instant: Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh receives the sincerest congratulation of all ranks.

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The Commanding Officer left head-quarters to inspect the Mian Mir wing on the 6th instant returning to Dalhousie on the 13th. His visit to the wing was to have taken place on the 1st instant, but the dangerous state of the roads prevented his leaving until five days later.

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The first musketry party to use the new cordite ammunition up here has been the Band and Casuals, part of the practices for which this ammunition is issued being gone through on the range on the 7th instant; some very good firing resulted and altogether the practice was considered satisfactory.

* * * * * *

From *the Aldershot News* the following complimentary mention of our first battalion, during the review before the German Emperor, is taken:—

"Lieutenant-Colonel O. C. Hannay is to be congratulated on the appearance of his men at the Review on Monday, the Emperor specially commenting on the regiment as they marched past in quarter-column."

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"Our Sergeants bade their comrades of the Second Border Regiment—who are for the Wazaristan expedition—farewell, on Saturday the 8th instant, the Sergeants of Mankote Camp receiving and responding heartily to an invitation to a dinner and smoking concert at our Sergeants Mess on the evening of that date. The repast was served punctually at 9 p. m., after which the various toasts, interspersed with songs, followed. The usual loyal toast being drunk, Sergeant-Major McRae proposed the health of the "Sergeants of Borders" which was drunk with Highland honors and to which Color-Sergeant O'Neill responded. Several other toasts succeeded this and a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close a few minutes before midnight by all present singing "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem. Sergeant J. H. Symcox, ably assisted by Sergeants J. Gunn and F. M.

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Ross, was responsible for the dinner and the distribution of the liquids, and most ably carried out his arduous duties, the whole of the arrangements leaving nothing to be desired.

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The Football Team left for Simla early on the morning of Tuesday, 11th instant, under the charge of Drum-Major R. Thompson. Color-Sergeant T. Spedding accompanied the team as far as Duniera and saw them safely started in ekkas on their way to Pathankote, returning to camp the same evening.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh had his first parade of the head-quarter wing, since being gazetted to command, on Friday, 14th instant The Battalion marched to the "Dhobie Flats" and there performed some battalion movements to the satisfaction of the commanding officer and returned to camp about noon.

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The Tug-of-war Team will have to look to their laurels as our old friend Mr. William Forbes-Mitchell, late of the Ninety-third, now proprietor of the Bon-Accord Rope Works, Garden Reach, Calcutta, and author of "The Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny" proposes to give a brand new tug-of-war rope to be competed for by teams from each corps of the British Army, (Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry), assembled at Lahore for the Durbar. The rope will be 120 feet long and guaranteed to bear a strain of $7\frac{1}{2}$ tons and is of the value of Rs. 60. Mr. Forbes-Mitchell also intends to present each of the Highland Regiments with a similar rope, and the following is quoted from his letter: "The ropes for the "Gay Gordons" and "Gallant Seaforths" are to be considered as a mark of *camaraderie* from their younger brethren of the Sutherland Highlanders, in commemoration of the real tug-of-war, when all the three, the old Seventy-fifth, Seventy-eighth, and Ninety-third, so bravely pulled together for the Relief of Lucknow in November, 1857, and the rope for the Ninety-third will be considered as made by one of themselves." Major J. H. Campbell of ours, to whom the ropes will be sent, is to be asked to take charge of them until November, and to present them in the name of the Ninety-third to the other two Highland Regiments; also to arrange for the presentation of the rope to the winning team in the "all-comers" match. Mr. Forbes-Mitchell hopes that the Ninety-third will in this match prove that they can both make ropes and pull them.

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Mr. Forbes-Mitchell also hopes to visit Lahore during the Durbar and be present at the Highland Brigade St. Andrew's Dinner, though he has, he says, "scarcely recovered from the effects of 'the Quaichs' of whisky poured down his throat by the boys of the new battalion last year."

* * * * * *

Copies of *The Aldershot News* to hand contain various highly satisfactory accounts of the doings of our first battalion in Aldershot, whilst the following little paragraph is eulogistic in the extreme:—

"Seeing that Major-General Gregorie never gives praise where it is not thoroughly due, Lieutenant-Colonel Hannay may congratulate himself that the men of the 91st Highlanders must have done supremely well, for the clever commandant of the Second Field Column to go almost out of his way to say that he was proud to have them under his command."

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The Sergeants of the battalion received a most kind invitation from Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan to attend the wedding of their third daughter to Staff-Sergeant Lloyd, Commissariat Department, Multan, the ceremony taking place on the 19th instant in St. John's Church. After the hymeneal knot had been tied by the Rev. J. C. Shepherd, Chaplain of Dalhousie, cake and wine were served in the Masonic Hall. The bride, whose great-grandfather served in the Ninety-third, was in receipt of a wedding present from the members of the Sergeants' Mess, the gift taking the form of a handsome travelling clock.

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A grand fancy dress ball took place in the Assembly Rooms on the 19th instant, nearly all Dalhousie being present; some very pretty and unique dresses were worn. A special feature of the dance programme was the "Singing Lancers," each figure being performed to the singing of some nursery rhyme. A part of the band as usual attended and assisted in the vocal, as well as supplying the instrumental, portion of the music.

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The monsoons have at last abated and some really beautiful weather has been enjoyed for the last fortnight, the nights being however rather chilly, and those who are staying for the winter section may expect some pretty severe weather.

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The breakfast hour on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, is now at half past seven, instead of eight o'clock, which allows of earlier parades taking place on these days.

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Lieutenant and Quarter-Master Sinclair Forbes has been gazetted to the Honorary Rank of Captain.

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The 20th September was the anniversary of the Battle of the Alma, in which the Highland Brigade, consisting of the Forty-second, Seventy-ninth and Ninety-third Highlanders, played such a brilliant part. Sir Colin Campbell leading the Brigade had his horse shot under him, but was up immediately at the head of his men shouting "We'll hae nane but Hielan' bannets here!" This battalion on that eventful September day of 1854 lost more men killed and wounded than the other two regiments of the brigade put together. The Forty-second lost five killed and thirty-two wounded; the Seventy-ninth, two killed and seven wounded, whilst the Ninety-third had eight men killed, the wounded numbering forty-four.

Funeral of the late Lieutenant Malcolm Stevenson.

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THE funeral of Lieutenant Malcolm Stevenson, late of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, who died at his father's residence, Bidston-road, Birkenhead, on Wednesday last, at the early age of 25, took place on Saturday at Flaybrick Hill Cemetery, Birkenhead. The circumstances surrounding his death are so remarkable and distressing that the deepest sympathy has been widely expressed with his family in their bereavement. While quartered with his regiment at Dalhousie, Punjab, India, this promising young officer was unfortunately bitten by a rabid dog on the morning of June 9. He left at once for Paris to go through the Pasteur treatment, his brother, Dr. Edgar Stevenson, meeting him in that city on his arrival there, and remaining in close attendance on him through the course of 15 days' treatment, during which time he was perfectly well and cheerful. He returned to his home in Birkenhead, and continued in excellent health until Wednesday, July 24, when he complained of a slight pain in the back, and thought he had overstrained himself playing golf. He played again, however, the next day (Thursday), and thought the pain a little worse in the evening. The following day (Friday) the pain was so bad that he had to take to his bed. On Sunday he was relieved from pain, but became gradually weaker, until he passed peacefully away on the evening of Wednesday, Aug. 1. Unfortunately he had arrived in Paris too late for the Pasteur treatment to save his life, but there is no doubt it greatly mitigated his subsequent sufferings and substituted the rare paralytic rabies for the usual convulsive form of this dreadful disease. There was a very large attendance of mourners at the cemetery, which is situated a short distance from Bidston-road. The coffin, which was draped with the Union Jack and surmounted by the deceased officer's feather bonnet, claymore, and dirk, was borne in an open hearse, from his father's house, and followed on foot by his near relatives and most intimate friends. The grave

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was beautifully decorated with flowers and ivy, by the thoughtful kindness of some dear lady friends. Cordial messages and letters of sympathy and condolence have been received from countless friends in this country, as well as from India and Canada, including one from the commanding officer of the 93rd Highlanders, from Dalhousie, India, expressing the deepest regret of his brother officers at the loss of their comrade and their sympathy with his family in their mutual loss. A similarly worded telegram from Colonel Hannay, on behalf of the officers of the 91st Highlanders quartered at Aldershot, and a letter from the officer commanding the Regimental Depôt of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders at Stirling, were received by Mr. Stevenson, as also one from the Horse Guards expressing the regret of H. R. H. the Commander-in Chief at this young officer's sad death.—*The Liverpool Mercury.*

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Extract from our Pepys.

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AND behold! as I sauntered from my bungalow, I heard the sound of great shouting and much noise and confusion and was somewhat terrified, but my curiosity being in the ascendant, I ventured nearer and saw a great crowd of much people, and there were stakes and ropes with a great space of ground inside, and I looked and saw but few men inside the ropes, one of whom seemed of great stature and towered above his fellows, and as I watched, the tall man walked up and down inside the space on the one side with a man of less stature by his side, whilst on the other side walked a man of moody countenance, with no one by his side. And of the other men, I noticed two men armed with great shovels, and others had papers and pencil, whilst two more did battle, armed only with papers, one of whom had papers much larger than his fellow. And I looked again, and behold one man with the paper sate himself down at one end of the space and placing the paper in front of his two hands, gazed anxiously towards the further end of the space, and after some one had called in a loud voice there was great silence, and I beheld the man of large stature hurl a huge mass of iron aloft, and lo! the paper vanished from sight; then there was a great uproar and the men in the ring rushed together and shouted in an unknown tongue and spake saying: "Doon she goes;" "What did I tell ye;" "Pit it there noo"! Pit it there!! "Aye, come and look at it." These and other things did they shout; then the man with large papers sate himself in the position before occupied by his fellow, whom I after heard addressed as "Redtop," and again a great silence fell on all, and he of the gloomy countenance took a smaller ring of iron and threw it, but the paper did not disappear and then the uproar was renewed and shouts of "I tell ye! I tell ye! I tell ye!" "He's awa wi'it. He's awa wi'it" rent the air, and this continued for a long space of time, each man throwing twice from each end and then crossing over to the other end of the enclosed space, and after they had crossed, the men armed with spades commenced to dig up some clay at the place the throwers had left, whilst the other men collected round the end where the paper had been placed, and gazed anxiously at the clay there, and after much debate, and measuring with compasses and other articles, one man would shout at one time "two to Walker," when there would be great uproar, and at another time "one for Shaw," when there was also great shouting. Being of an inquiring mind I ventured to ask the name of the sport, and they told me that it was a quoit match, then I went on my way and pondered on what I had seen, knowing not who was playing nor what they were supposed to be doing.

At eventide, being athirst, I ventured into a large hall, where many men were collected, and on making inquiries discovered that I had been witness of the great match of quoits between one Peter Walker of ours and one Hughie Shaw of the Seaforths, and I did also learn that Walker had vanquished Shaw and had won much money, whereupon I sought out Peter and did sit with him all night, and the rest of my acts that night are they not all buried in oblivion? and did the condition of my head next morning not warn me, that I had done well; whereupon I determined to seek out Peter again immediately the gong announced the hour of twelve.

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Rifle Competitions.

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"C" COMPANY No. II SECTION *v.* No. III SECTION.

A shooting match for Rs. 50 a-side between teams of eight men from Nos. II and III Sections of "C" Company took place on the 5th instant, when No. II Section, who are the holders of the Clock, presented to the best shooting Section in the Company, were, after a most exciting match, victorious by six points.

The first distance was 200 yards, and at this No. III Section led by 3 points; going back to 500 yards No. III Section still further increased their lead, scoring 87 to No. II Section's 72. At this distance Private Brown 25, and Corporal Miller 24, both of No. III Section, were the highest scores. At the final stage, 600 yards, No. III Section went all to pieces, several very fair shots making unaccountably low scores; still the two last men lay down to fire with the score still in favour of No. III Section, but Private Morrison beat his opponent at every shot, and No. 11 were victorious as above stated by six points.

The weather was very unfavourable to good shooting, especially during firing at 200 and 600 yards, when it was raining heavily. Corporal A. Watters, No. II Section, was the highest scorer during the match with 61 points.

The following represented their respective Sections:—No. II Section: Sergeant Stewart, Corporal Watters and Privates Casey, Dodds, Morrison, McArthur, Kellie and Campbell. No. III Section: Corporal W. Miller and Privates Brocklehurst, Ritchie, Brown (2773), Deane, Johnson, Sheppard and Inglis.

Corporal's Shooting Match.

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NINETY-THIRD (TICCA SPUR) *v.* DALHOUSIE DEPOT.

THIS match, which had been discussed for a considerable time eventually came off on the range on Thursday, 6th September. The morning dawned fair and bright, and a splendid day was anticipated, but by 2 P.M., after about three quarters of an hour's shooting, dark clouds commenced to roll up and soon a dense monsoon mist enveloped the range, followed by drenching torrents of tropical rain. This however did not prevent firing during clear intervals when the targets could be seen; the competitors concluding up to 500 yards, the Ticca Spur Corporals winning by 21 points; after this an appetising luncheon was partaken of *al fresco*, all present doing the meal full justice. After *tiffin*, the weather still continuing unpropitious, it was unanimously decided to discontinue the match, and all consequently betook themselves to the Depôt Corporal's Room. This reached, an impromptu concert was organized, Corporal Watters being in the chair. Several good songs having been sung and the weather clearing up, an adjournment was made *en masse* to Ticca Spur Corporal's Tent where a still further display of vocal talent took place until the "first post of Tattoo" put an end to the revelry. The chairman regretted that, owing to the absence of the Commanding Officer, permission could not be obtained to prolong the evening's enjoyment; he therefore had much pleasure in proposing the health of the Depôt Corporals with "Highland Honours." Bombardier Quick, R. A., responded for the Depôt and "He's a jolly good fellow" concluded the proceedings.

The teams were as follows:—Ticca Spur: Corporals G. Arnott, R. Miller, W. Scott, G. Olden, A. Watters, W. Miller, G. Chittenden and W. Matthew and Lce.-Corporals J. Bell and J. Walsh. Dalhousie Depôt: Corporals C. Clarke and C. Gray, Ninety-third, and Corporal Scothern, Border Regiment, Bombardier Still, R. A., and Lce.-Corporal G. Forbes, Ninety-Third, Street and Hawtin, "The Buffs," Kennedy and Marsh, Border Regiment, and Rouse, Seaforth Highlanders

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Matches.

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"HATCHES, Matches and Dispatches" is the trite but expressive manner in which some Yankee papers allude to those events which are generally described by less up to date journals under the heading of "Domestic Occurrences," but the matches, which this inspired article intends to deal with, have nothing to do with the uniting of two misguided and deluded mortals in the bonds of matrimonial misery, *au contraire;* (I do not know what that means but it looks big) the matches in question are those which usually take place in a regiment or in a station where several regiments are quartered.

Of all outdoor matches, I think those at cricket are about the quietest and most orderly (I wish it to be understood that I am not taking Sergeant's Cricket Matches into consideration), the game of cricket not lending itself to much display of rowdyism, though at a close finish between two companies I have seen a good deal of enthusiasm exhibited by the supporters of both teams.

From cricket we turn next naturally enough to football, and here the more vociferous find scope for their lungs, and shouting appears to be a recognized part of the game; both teams are appealed to to "play up"; should an unlucky player happen to stumble, general attention is immediately called to him, his own side is advised in hoarse shouts to—"take him home"—whilst the opponents are informed that—"they're beat already."

With an enthusiastic audience, especially if money has been plentiful at 12 noon, a good run counts for but little, but a charge in which one man goes down like a ninepin is hailed with roars of applause and shouts of acclamation, whereupon the overthrown warrior picks himself up and vows to have his vengeance on the first opportunity, and the match loses interest, except as to the meeting of those two. One very interesting point about a football match is that whenever some player, evidently nigh spent with a smart run up the field, muffs a shot for goal, shouts of derision greet him, and from the remarks passed on all sides there is not a single man among the spectators who could not have done better himself, though, curiously enough, the men who are loudest in asserting that they would not have missed the shot are just the men who are hardly ever seen kicking a ball. At chess they say the onlooker sees most of the game; at football I think it might safely be said that the onlooker knows most of the game, and is invariably a better player than any one on the field—curious they are not asked to play. Ain't it?

From football, having led the reader from rowdy to rowdier, let me take him to rowdiest. I mean to a quoiting match. I have never seen a civilian quoit match, but a military one is—well! as the baffled coster said: "There ain't no blooming word for it." It simply—for pure slanging, personal abuse, and general filth slinging—licks creation, any personal peculiarity is immediately made capital of, language is made use of that would send a Billingsgate fishwife mad with envy, and throughout the whole of it the two throwers are supposed to keep cool and collected, and to be able to gauge to a nicety where to drop their quoits. Ye Gods! 'tis a wonderful and glorious game. Of course, there are other matches, but these are the more common among soldiers. Regarding indoor matches they are naturally of a quieter order, don,—crib and bezique, are common enough, and since our arrival at Mian Mir one hears occasionally of billiard matches, but none of these afford Tommy much scope for the exercising of his lungs. But, for the credit of soldiers, let me say that however personal they may become during a match, such personality never carries ill-will with it, and abuse and strong language seem to be as much a soldier's perquisite as "grousing."

MAC.

I wis dreamy, I wis hazy, an' ma heid wis birlin roun,
Ma banes war awfu' sair, for I'd slept upon the groun,
An' I started, and I shivered at ilka wee bit soun,'
It wis "rats!"

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TO relieve the monotony of life at Cabul, during the Afghan Campaign of 1879, theatrical, burlesque, and minstrel entertainments were encouraged and patronized by the present General Lord Roberts and his staff. On one occasion after a very successful performance by the C. C. C. C. (Cabul Combinated Christy Club), several of the men who took part in the performance, requested the talented manager (who was an A.-D.-C.) to favour them by writing the necessary authority for three bottles of brandy on payment. The manager would not acquiesce to this amount, but wrote out the following for a local merchant:

To Merwanjee,

Please give the bearer (on payment) 1 (one) bottle of brandy.

X. Y. Z.

As one bottle of brandy was considered barely sufficient for six men, a lively discussion took place as to how this amount could be augmented by the aid of pen and ink before presentation to Merwanjee; the acknowledged wit of the party was suddenly seized with an inspiration and calling for pen and ink, inserted doz. after (one) and added s. to bottle, which made the note read as follows:

Please give the bearer (on payment) 1 (one) doz. bottles of brandy.

X. Y. Z.

Needless to say, the party thoroughly enjoyed themselves and showered blessings on the head of the worthy manager.

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Home Battalion News.

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THE weekly receipt of *The Aldershot News* keeps us well informed of the doings of our first battalion. In the Army Athletic Meeting, which came off on the 3rd and 4th August, Lieutenant C. F. Dundas won the officers' quarter mile, while Private Duff and Piper Robb were first and second respectively in the Sword Dance, the latter also being second in the Highland Fling. In the catch-weight, Tug-of-War, our first battalion team secured a victory over the 71st Highland Light Infantry, but the invincible team of the "Scots Greys" were eventually the winners. On Friday, 31st August, we learn that Her Royal Highness, Princess Louise, accompanied by the Marquis of Lorne, paid a visit to her own regiment, Her Royal Highness taking an opportunity to lunch with the officers of the 91st Princess Louise's Own. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, rode over from the Field Firing Operations and lunched with the party, which was also joined by the ladies of the regiment. The pipers under Pipe Major Thompson played round the table, and outside, the band, under the direction of Bandmaster Hill, discoursed an excellent selection. Immediately after lunch, the Royal party inspected the barrack-rooms, with which they seemed much pleased, and then took leave of Lieutenant-Colonel Hannay and officers of the battalion.

Before their departure off the field column, Major General Gregorie addressed the men and referred to their work during the few days in which they had been under his command. The men, he said, had done more than their fair share of work, and had done it satisfactorily. He was glad to have them under his command, and to see the cheerfullness with which they performed their duties under the most trying circumstances. He concluded by congratulating Lieutenant-Colonel Hannay on commanding such a fine body of men. On reaching Marlborough Lines, Colonel Hannay, in addressing the men before dismissal, referred to the remarks made by Major General Gregorie on the behaviour of the battalion. They had, he said, done some rough work, and every one had done his best to up-hold the credit of the regiment, for which he thanked them one and all. A draft of 162 men are to leave shortly for service with this battalion. Lieutenant A. J. Campbell has been appointed Adjutant of the School of Instruction for Auxiliary Forces in Aldershot. A start is to be made with the Regimental Football Shield competition, whilst the regimental team is also preparing for the coming season. Captain Alan Foster has been selected for the Adjutancy of the 4th Battalion (Royal Renfrew Militia) in place of Major J. S. Napier, who rejoins this battalion as second-in-command.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

THAT it was at the slaughtering match on the 22nd.

That it paid Rs. 2 for a ticket.

That things were lively.

That it lost its boots.

That landslips are inconvenient at times.

That the "Redtop fund" was not a success.

That "Pate" is looking for another paperer.

That it will volunteer.

That the "Compo" has come.

That the "Moonlighters" had a good night.

That "C" Company goes in for shooting.

That No. 3 Section was a wash.

That it made more than 6 itself at 600 yards.

That a corporal "sold it."

That "Buffy" was off color.

That it congratulates its Lieutenant-Colonel and also its new Captain.

That the football team has gone to Simla.

That they have changed their colors.

That it hopes their luck will change as well.

That their jerseys cost a very modest sum.

That they started well.

That it hopes it will last.

That a private beat a Non-Com. at billiards.

That it saw the private afterwards.

That the trooping season has again come round.

Roll on 18—.

That a Sergeant wanted the dhoolie.

That a split soda was eventually as efficacious.

What its Mian Mir cousin says:—

That its an ill wind that blows nobody good.

That fever and ague prevents it saying any more.

Dalhousie.—(*concluded.*)

—o—

AS we are going down to the plains next month this will be about one of the las sketches of Dalhousie, and having, in the last month's issue, taken my reader down to the Polo Ground, I must, I presume, out of courtesy, bring him back again.

Very good, "about turn" "quick march,' and up the hill we go, thus following the usual routine of a route march, which in the hills reminds one of nothing more forcibly than the old verse:—

"The brave old Duke of York,
With twice five hundred men,
He took and marched them up the hill
Then marched them down again.
Now when they were up, they were up, up, up,
And when they were down, they were down,
But when they were half way up the hill
They were neither up, nor down."

We leave the Polo ground behind us and passing Bannikhet on our left, still toil on, through glorious scenery, passing through the ranges, where the men, who are to do battle for us in the "Honour and Glory" match, are to be seen at practice daily, shooting with varying success; higher and higher we climb, puffing and blowing, till finally we arrive at Mankote Camp, the subject of the sketch, and here we may rest for a few moments and take a breather.

Two companies of the Seaforth and half a company of the Buffs are stationed here—the camp presenting a most picturesque appearance; tents being pitched wherever practicable, much after the manner of our own camp at Ticca Spur. I am supposing that it is in the day time, but if evening, let me advise my reader not to linger too long, or to pay a prolonged visit to the canteen, for many of us can trace a few days to barracks to the pitfalls awaiting one on the perilous journey from Mankote to Ticca Spur; at the best of time the road is bad enough, but on a dark night a hurricane lamp becomes a necessity. Two companies of the Border Regiment were also stationed at Mankote, but they have departed to fight gloriously for their Queen and Country against some dusky gentlemen termed the Wazaris. May success follow them; and if they see no fighting let us hope they will be fortunate enough to get a medal, without which no soldier ought to join the reserve.

[THE END.]

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Theatrical Notes.

—o—

ON the 20th and 21st August a very good entertainment was given by a mixed troupe at the Dalhousie Assembly Rooms; one of the most amusing items being a Marionette Dance by Private Bell of the Derbyshire Regiment, whilst Assistant Surgeon Bracio and Sergeant Carrington sang some excellent songs. The Ninety-third was well represented by Privates Benson, Royffe, Evans, Milne, Skinner, Miller, Brown, Russell, Clarke and Newland, and the programme gave great satisfaction.

The whole was under the superintendence of Lieutenant Hume of the Border Regiment, who was ably assisted by Lieutenant McCheane of the Royal Artillery, who officiated as accompanyist.

Another entertainment was given on the evenings of 13th and 14th September by some members of ours, under the management of Lieutenant Patten, at the Assembly Rooms.

The programme consisted of a variety performance followed by a farcical sketch. In the former Private Benson sang some good songs, notably "She was standing upon the Quay." Privates Clark and Newland were good in their song and dance, whilst Private Williams, ably assisted by Private Cook, gave an excellent display on the Horizontal bar. Bandsmen Brown and Lyons were responsible for the comic element, and their duet "Angels have called him home" was deservedly encored. The sketch "Rum Uns from Rome" affords opportunities for endless fun, and went briskly from start to finish. Special mention must, however, be made of "Miss" Walker, who took her part with great success, and we trust we will often have the pleasure of seeing her on the boards in the near future.

He entered the door with halting mien,
Glanced round with a hungry glance,
By his look, and behaviour, 'twas easily seen
He was doing a step of the "Dance."

Dalhousie Depot Notes.

—o—

THE Cavalry and Artillery Section (No. 1) gave a dance in the Assembly Rooms on the 22nd ultimo, which was fairly well attended; since then the Depôt is gradually getting denuded of troops, some sections being only represented by a few files on parade. Small batches of convalescents have been leaving for the plains during the last few weeks, and the winter section has been selected. A few of ours from Mián Mír, however, arrive from time to time, and the Ninety-third detachment, which now numbers about 70, all told, is largely in the majority.

* * * * * *

The Depôt Sergeants gave a farewell smoking concert to the Sergeants of the Border Regiment the night previous to their leaving Dalhousie, a most jovial evening being spent in the Depôt Mess.

* * * * * *

On Monday evening, the 10th instant, a social meeting was held in the A. T. A. Rooms, at which Association medals were presented by Lieutenant Fetherstonhaugh, Seaforth Highlanders, to Lance-Seargeant Carrington, Border Regiment, Depôt Branch; Private Watts, "The Buffs," Bannikhet Branch, and to Colour Sergeant Swan, Ninety-third Highlanders, Ticca Spur Branch, a two years' Bar being also presented to Private West, Border Regiment.

The presentation of honours was followed by a concert, the programme, for which Private W. K. Learmont, Ninety-third, the Secretary was responsible, being as under:—

Song ... ... "Molly Riley."
PRIVATE HUNT, SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.
Encore ... ... "The Watchman's Fire."
Song ... ... "Inky."
CORPORAL PRITCHARD, BORDER REGIMENT.
Encore ... ... "The Coster."
Song ... ... "Master and Man."
LANCE-SERGEANT CARRINGTON.
Encore ... ... "The Irishman in France."
Song ... ... "The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond."
PRIVATE BRAND, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "The Blue-Haired Boy."
PRIVATE MATHINSON, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Recitation ... ... "The Last Shot."
CORPORAL JOHNSTONE, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "Mona."
PRIVATE SHORT, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "The Bugler."
LANCE-CORPORAL MANN, BORDER REGIMENT.
Song ... ... "The Harbour Lights."
CORPORAL CLARKE, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "The Drunkard's Dream."
PRIVATE BRASENELL, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Encore ... ... "Scotland the Brave."
Song ... ... "The night I made my début."
LANCE-CORPORAL KEEN, SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.

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Song ... ... "Tottie Fay."
PRIVATE SKINNER, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Encore ... . "There you are."
Song ... ... "The Carriage waits my Lord."
LANCE-SERGEANT CARRINGTON.
Song ... ... "Skating at Olympia."
PRIVATE BURGESS, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "I'm not such a juggins."
CORPORAL PRITCHARD.
Song ... ... "Medley."
PRIVATE BRAND.
Song ... ... "Barney McNulty's Spree."
PRIVATE ROYFFE, NINETY-THIRD HIGHLANDERS.
Song ... ... "Milly Clare."
PRIVATE HUNT.
Encore ... ..." Norah, My Village Queen."
Song ... . "True till Death."
LANCE-CORPORAL MANN.

This being the last of a series of concerts held during the summer in connection with the Depôt branch, the Committee did their utmost to make it a thorough success, which it certainly was.

* * * * * *

A smoking concert was given at Bannikhet on the 21st instant, at which several members of the Depôt were present and assisted in the programme, Privates Skinner and Brand, Ninety-third, each, singing three songs.

* * * * * *

The following of ours have received Depôt promotions and appointments:—No. 3146 Corporal Clarke, "H" Company, to be Lance-Sergeant and Provost Sergeant. No. 3221 Private J. Skinner, to be Canteen Waiter. No. 3048 Private C. Kerr, to be Acting Bazaar Sergeant. No. 3340 Private S. Booth, to be in charge of cow-sheds. No. 3328 Private D. Skae, to be Dairyman. No. 1580 Private C. Brasenell, "B" Company, No. 3507 Private J. Robertson, "F" Company, and No. 2917 Private J. Barker, "E" Company, to be employed as Provosts. No. 3459 Private Stanford, "E" Company, to be Barman, A. T. A. No. 1650 Private Wilcox, to be Storeman. No. 3628 Lance-Corporal Poole, "D" Company, to be Caterer to Corporal's Mess. No. 4868 Drummer R. Gifford, to be Lance-Corporal. No. 3005 Lance-Sergeant McDonald, to be acting Canteen Sergeant. No. 4062 Lance-Corporal Langdon, to be Assistant Instructor of Ambulance Class.

* * * * * *

By the 26th October the Depôt, with the exception of the men who remain for the Winter Section, will have ceased to exist, and those who have recovered convalescence will be again on the plains at the stations of their various regiments.

Temperance Topics.

—o—

"WATCH and be sober" is the motto of the Army Temperance Association, and the members of the regimental branch prove that they act thoroughly up to it, as at a presentation of honours held in the Dalhousie Depôt Temperance Room on the evening of Saturday, 15th instant, no less than forty-eight members received two years' Bars, whilst three also were presented with medals for three years' total abstinence. Captain A. F. Mackenzie most kindly accepted the invitation of the Associaton, and presented the honours to the various recipients, of whom a list follows:—*Three Years' Medals*: Corporal W. Miller, "C" Company, Drummer Gifford, "A" Company, and Private Stevenson, "H" Company. *Two Years' Bars*: Color-Sergeant Swan, "C" Company, Sergeant Soutar and Corporal Johnstone, "B" Company, Corporal Scott, "C" Company, Corporal Durnan, "D" Company; Lance-Corporals Kerr and Forbes, "B" Company, Lance-Corporal Kettles, "C" Company, Lance-Corporal Ranken, "D" Company, Lance-Corporal Langdon, "E" Company, and Lance-Corporal Irwin, "G" Company; Privates C. Greenland, A. Crawford, P. Fowler, J. Milne, P. Galbraith, G. Watson, J. Linehan, J. Lynch, A. McLennan and J. Wright, "A" Company; Privates J. Brand, C. Brasenell, W. Brindley, M. Cassells, J. Mathieson and F. Kitchener, "B" Company; Privates Anderson, Artlett, Dodds, Inglis, Kelly, McLachlan, Mahoney, White, Whyte and Murray, "C" Company, and Privates Burgess, Duncan, Fawkes, J. Burns, J. Brown, W. Gordon, Lindsay, Metcalfe, Gilfin, Pake and Booth, "D" Company. *One Year Medal*: Privates Binns, Campbell, L. Grant, W. Walker, J. Gordon and Bamfield, "A" Company; Privates W. Bracey, W. McLean, Milne and Pullar, "B" Company; Privates Cassidy and Deane, "C" Company, and Privates Gillon, Dunlop and Galbraith, "D" Company.

Cruickshank Badges (six months): Privates Nicholson, Little, J. Campbell, Porter, Learmont and Kerr, "A" Company; Drummer Buchanan, and Privates F. Bracey, Chidley, Johnson, Fullbrook, Newall, Pullar and Smith, "B" Company; Privates Cassidy, Deane, Dunsmore and Boy White, "C" Company, and Private Connell, "D" Company.

A "smoker" followed, at which pipes and "Pioneer" brand, and cigars and cigarettes, were distributed *ad lib*, a most enjoyable evening being brought to a close at 11-15 p.m.

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Regimental Gazette.

Promotions.—No. 1778 Sergeant T. A. Swan, "C" Company, to be Color-Sergeant. No. 2856 Lance-Corporal (Provisional Lance-Sergeant) T. Campbell, "F" Company, to be Canteen Sergeant. No. 3144 Lance-Corporal G. Olden, "D" Company, to be Corporal. No. 2751 Lance-Corporal T. Pagan, "F" Company, and No. 4269 Lance-Corporal F. G. Fressanges, "E" Company, taken on the paid establishment of their rank. No. 3625 Private E. Bull, "D" Company, to be Lance-Corporal.

Appointments.—No. 4223 Private J. Hutton, "B" Company and No. 3746 Private W. Brown, "C" Company, to be acting Drummers. No. 3050 Private D. McLachlan, "H" Company, and Boy G. Mackenzie, "B" Company, to be pipers.

Provisional Promotion.—No. 2768 Private W. McRae, No. 2980 Private G. McGregor, and No. 3273 Private W. Sear, "H" Company, to be provisional Lance-Corporals.

G. C. Pay.—No. 4240 Private John Isdale, "G" Company, granted 1*d.*

Educational Certificates.—No. 4209 Lance-Corporal A. Campbell. No. 3047 Private J. Milne, No. 3851 Private R. Smith, and No. 4922 Boy R. Green, "A" Company. No. 3247 Lance-Corporal J. McKimm and No. 3323 Private D. Whitecross, "B" Company. No. 3011 Private W. Inglis, No. 2872 Private G. McLachlan and No. 4621 Boy J. White, "C" Company. No. 4344 Private J. Burns and No. 4878 Private G. McLachlan, "D" Company, granted second class certificates.

No. 3975 Private A. Donnelly, No. 4330 Private A. Kerr and No. 4379 Private J. Logan, "B" Company. No. 3626 Private W. Cook and No. 3175 Private F. Bennett, "D" Company, granted third class certificates of education.

Employment.—No. 3079 Private A. Wallace, "B" Company, to be School Assistant. No. 3764 Private J. Adcock, to be employed on the Garrison Police. No. 3794 Private J. Mathieson, "F" Company, to be clerk in the A. A. G.'s Office.

Extension of Service.—No. 3137 Private S. Johnston, "H" Company, has been permitted to extend his period of Army Service to 12 years with the colors.

Transfers.—No. 2868 Private J. Rodgers, "A" Company, No. 2947 Private W. Drysdale, No. 3946 Private J. Wilson, and No. 3328 Private D. Skae, "B" Company, and No. 2417 Private M. Watson, "C" Company, transferred to Hill Depôt.

No. 2760 Sergeant J. Gunn transferred from "B" to "C" Company. No. 4875 Private D. C. Macgregor transferred from "F" to "B" Company. No. 4058 Drummer G. Buchanan transferred from "C" to "F" Company. No. 3137 Private S. Johnston, "H" Company, transferred to 46th F. B. R. A.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

"D" COMPANY.

			£	s.	d.
No. 2949	Private	H. Maddox	0	19	0
„ 2561	„	J. Lindsay	0	13	0
„ 3373	„	D. Gordon	0	10	0
„ 1541	„	J. Sellars	0	10	0
„ 3036	„	A. Brydone...	0	9	0
„ 3378	„	F. Lynch	0	7	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section, No. 1772 Sergeant J. W. Green			0	8	6
Commander of Second Best Shooting Section, No. 2519 Sergeant W. Smith			0	4	3

———:o:———

Foot-ball.

—o—

THE DURAND TOURNAMENT.

ON the 17th instant the first of the series of matches for the possession of the much coveted trophy, the Durand Foot-ball Cup, took place in the picturesque valley of Annandale. The teams of the various regiments competing being encamped on the slope of a hill, about a quarter of a mile from the scene of the friendly strife, the camp forming a most picturesque corner in the landscape.

Twelve teams entered for the Tournament, there being besides ourselves, the Highland Light

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Infantry from Fyzabad, the Seaforth Highlanders from Ferozepore, the Royal Scots Fusiliers from Sialkot, the King's Own Scottish Borderers, Devonshire Regiment and Gordon Highlanders from Rawal Pindi, the Derbyshire Regiment from Umballa, the Somerset Light Infantry from Sabathu, the Royal Welsh Fusiliers from Jansi, and a local team, the Simla Volunteers.

The first round opened on Monday 17, with the match between the Royal Scots Fusiliers and the Gordon Highlanders, in which, although the "Gay Gordons" played up well, they had to retire defeated by 4 goals to 2.

The second match took place the following day and was between the Seaforth Highlanders and the Derbyshire Regiment. In this match the Sherwood Forresters played an excellent game, but were no match for their opponents, and the "Rosshire Buffs" eventually won by 2 goals to *nil*. On Wednesday 19 our team played their first tie and succeeded in knocking out the Royal Welsh Fusiliers by eight goals to *nil*, a most hollow victory and really not very meritorious, as the Welshmen were out matched at every point. As, however, a detailed account may interest our readers we give a full description of the match:—

Simla, 19th September.

Our men did battle here for the first time to-day, their opponents being the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Great interest was manifest in the game at the commencement, a large concourse of spectators, including the Viceroy and Lady Elgin, turning down to witness the match.

At 5 P.M. the Twenty-third started the ball, but it had not travelled far before our men secured it, and before 5 minutes play Reid had placed it between the goal posts of the Fusiliers. About a couple of minutes after this our forwards again secured the leather, and Duffin assisted by McLaren registered the second goal, whilst, before 10 minutes play had taken place, yet another point was added to our score: a fourth goal soon followed and the poor display of the Welshmen caused all further interest in the game to evaporate, it simply remained to be seen how many goals the "Rories" could secure before the call of time. Handling the ball on the part of the Twenty-third brought about a fifth goal with 20 minutes play, but after this the game became more even, the Welshmen making one or two half-hearted attempts to score, but were always met and frustrated, and at half time the score stood:—

Ninety-third	5
Royal Welsh Fusiliers	0

Play being resumed after the usual interval, and the teams having changed ends, our men contented themselves with some easy play, but could not resist scoring; the sixth goal being secured from a high kick, the seventh from a scrimmage in front of the posts, whilst the eighth was the result of a penalty kick; Reid putting the ball clean through the posts. This was the last point scored, and the game concluded with the score showing 8 to *nil* in favor of the Ninety-third.

Our team was as follows:—*Forwards*—McArthur, Duffin, Reid, McManus, and Sturgess. *Half-backs*—McKimm, McLaren, and Singleton. *Backs*—Watson and Gordon. *Goal*—Whitecross.

The result of this match has greatly advanced the "Gurkhas"—the sobriquet by which we are known at Simla—in the public favor.

Sport.

—o—

QUOITS.—On Monday, the 3rd September, the return match between Private Shaw, Seaforths, and Private Walker of ours, took place. This match was to have taken place on the 1st, but owing to the inclemency of the weather the match had to be postponed. Stakes were only Rs. 100 aside, though Walker was open for Rs. 500. At the beginning of the game Shaw ran off with 7 points the lead, but Walker, steadying down to his work, soon equalised and passing Shaw, the issue was never in doubt.

Unfortunately, rain fell heavily towards the end of the game, which slightly detracted from the enjoyment of the afternoon.

Without doubt the best man won, and the question of supremacy was settled in a manner that left no room for question: in fact, Shaw himself expressed his conviction that he had met a man better than himself, and held out no hopes of a future contest. At the conclusion of the game the scores stood—

Private Walker	61
„ Shaw	48

Walker thus winning by 5 points less than the last match.

Billiards.—The Depôt Billiard Room was the scene of some excitement on the evening of Thursday, the 13th instant, the occasion being a match between Lance-Corporal Fressanges, "C" Company, and Private Maddox, "D" Company.

Fressanges early assumed the lead, which he kept till the fifties were reached, when Maddox slowly overhauled him. From this point, Maddox, who, in the early part of the game, had the hardest of hard lines, gradually drew away, and kept in front until the finish; the game, which was one of 150 up, resulting in a win for the latter, on whom odds of 5 to 4 were offered.

SCORES: Private Maddox, 150 points.
Lance-Corporal Fressanges, 132 points.

The win was a most popular one, the old "grey back" coming in for a round of hearty applause at the close of the game.

Private Roberts, East Surrey Regiment, who officiated as marker, performed his duties in a most efficient manner.

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Editorial.

—o—

IT is decidedly flattering to us to find our modest venture alluded to, and that in a complimentary spirit, by such a paper as *The Stirling Observer*.

Stirling is a place intimately connected with this regiment, it being the head-quarters of our Regimental District, since the introduction of the Territorial System.

A splendid suggestion made by the *Stirling Observer* is decidedly worth quoting :

"By the bye, would it not be a good thing for some of us who have a little spare time at disposal now and again if we were to sit down and pen a few lines to our soldiers on foreign service? Certainly a letter would be heartily welcomed by them, in which they might not only get an inkling of home news such as they could not gather from newspapers, but an interchange of opinion might be opened up. We have for some years now carried on correspondence with military friends in various quarters of the globe, and at the present moment have two letters in hand of this nature, and can speak with some knowledge of the pleasure derivable from the receipt of "a letter from home." We have no doubt the Editor, *The Thin Red Line*, Dalhousie, Bengal, E. I., would gladly welcome anything good."

We heartily endorse every word of the above and would welcome any contributions likely to be of interest to our readers, and should any philanthropic person feel inclined to contribute a "home letter," we will have the greatest pleasure in placing him or her on our complimentary list.

We feel sure on this munificent offer being publicly known that we shall be inundated with letters ; however, our back is broad and we accept the responsibility.

———:o:———

BIRTHS.

Wynne.—At Dalhousie, on the 8th instant, the wife of Sergeant C. Wynne, of a daughter, Catherine Mary.

DEATHS.

Sparks.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 25th ultimo, Private Alex. Sparks, "H" Company, of enteric fever.

Mavour.—At Mian Mir, on the 14th instant, No. 4689 Private A. Mavour, "G" Company, of heart disease.

Ballantyne.—At the Station Hospital, Fort Lahore, No. 2862 Private J. Ballantyne, "E" Company, of heat apoplexy.

Yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions for one year from the following :—

Mrs. Hutchinson, Chanda Ghaut.

Staff Sergeant Loane, Commissariat Department.

Piper R. Nicholson.

Corporal Stimson.

———:o:———

Soldierin'.

—o—

As I sits on my cot and cleans my gun,
(*A bit of flannel just four by two.*)
I says to myself, 'Billy Jones, my son,'
(*From breach to muzzle you draws it through.*)
"When you've done your '*seven*' and gone away,
"Away from the colours, away from the drum,
"What will you do with yourself all day,
"What will you do, Billy Jones, my son?

"At first of course you'll swagger about,
(*And now a rub with an oily rag.*)
"And all your pals will find you out,
(*The last bit left in my cleaning bag.*)
"But when your '*deferred*' is spent in beer.
"With empty pockets and pals all gone,
"And you find yourself in the street called 'queer,'
"What will you do, Billy Jones, my son?

"What will become of your mufti then,
(*Oil the barrel and oil the stock.*)
"That cost you a matter of two pound ten?
(*Rub it in with a heel of a sock.*)
"Who will take you when work is slack,
"Though you tramp the roads till the sun goes down,
'If you haven't a decent coat to your back?
"What will you do, Billy Jones, my son?

"So I says to myself, as I sits on my cot,
(*The bugle is sounding the cookhouse doo*)
"It's better to stick to the soldier's lot,
(*There's a smell of dinner and something more.*)
"You've a coat to your back, you've sheets to your bed,
"You've grub and your pay and plenty of fun,
"You've pals that are true, and a roof to your head,
"So you'll '*take on for twelve*,' Billy Jones, my son."

TWO BADGES.
In *The Men of Harlech.*

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

—o—

We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following :—

"The Soldier."
"The Vedette" (21st Hussars).
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.).
"The XVI" (16th Bedfordshire Regiment).
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Lancashire Lad" (47th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"The Tiger and Sphinx" (75th Gordon Highlanders).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The Globe and Laurel" (Royal Marines).
"The Eastern Guardsman" (Pennsylvanian National Guard, U. S. A).
"The American Guard," Gazette of the 71st Regiment N. Y. N. G.
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Stirling Observer."
"The Man of the World."

—o—

COMPANY AGENTS.

—o—

"A" Company—Private Watson.
"B" " — " Cassels.
"C" " —Lance-Corporal Stewart.
"D" " — " " Rankin.
"E" " — " " Fressanges.
"F" " —Lance-Corporal Brodie.
"G" " —Private Parker.
"H" " —Lance-Corporal McRae.
Band—Lance-Corporal Walsh.
Dalhousie Depôt—Private Learmont.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

—o—

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	„ half-year	...	12 „
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Officers and others not connected with the regiment.			Rs. 3 per annum.

—o—

NOTA BENE.

—o—

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *Thin Red Line.*

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contribution should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

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LAHORE DURBAR, 1894.

"The Thin Red Line"

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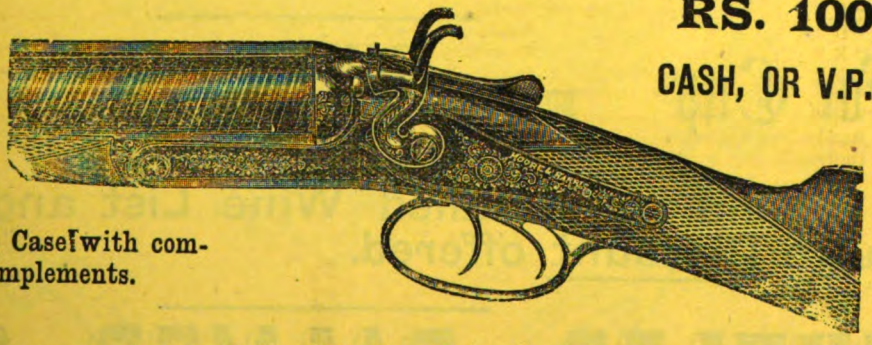

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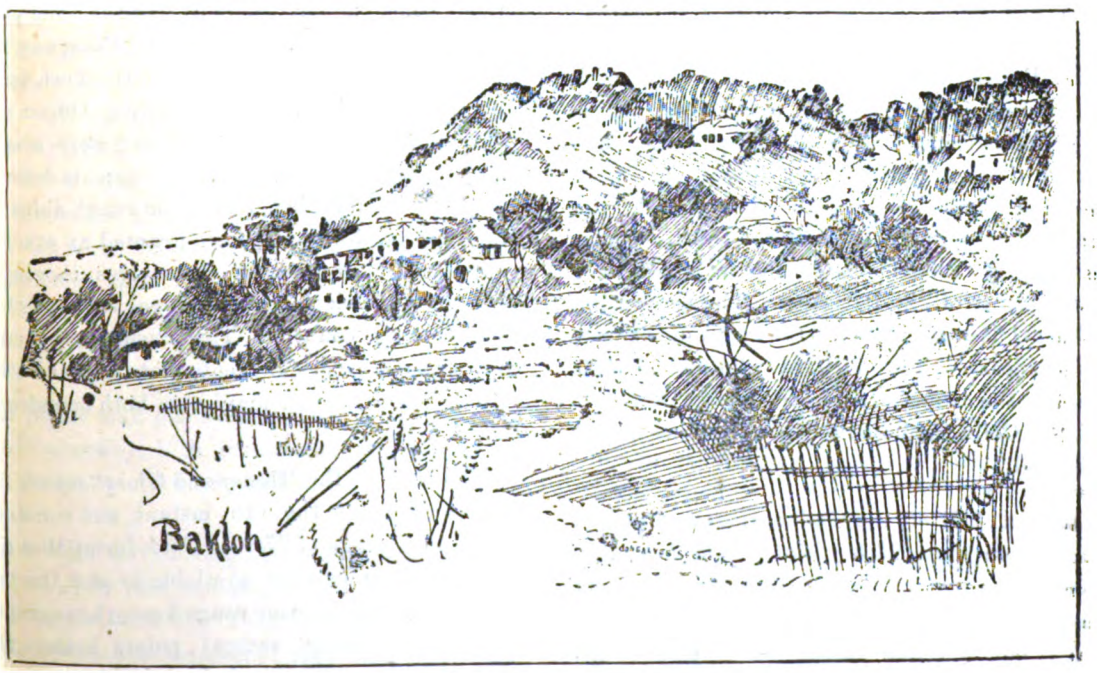
XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 10.—Vol. I. MIAN MIR,—OCTOBER 31st, 1894. Price, 2 Annas



View of Bakloh.

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SKIRLS

COLOR-SERGT. J. Macintosh has passed out at the top of the list of the non-commissioned officers' class at the Chungla Gully School of Musketry, getting 598 marks, this being two off a possible.

* * * * * *

From *the Statesman*:—

A REGIMENTAL MEMENTO.—Before handing over command of the 2nd Battalion (Princess Louise's) Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (the late 93rd) Colonel P. D. Trotter presented to Mr. Forbes Mitchell, whose connection with that distinguished corps is well known, three large photographs taken at Mian Mir. The first of these represents the Battalion, with band and pipes, on parade; the second, the Battalion marching past; and the third, a group consisting of Colonel Trotter, the Adjutant, and the Sergeants of the Battalion. The retirement of Colonel Trotter deprives the corps of the last of the officers of the old 93rd who served with it during the connection of Mr. Forbes Mitchell with Sir Colin Campbell's "thin red line tipped with steel."

* * * * * *

The last ball of the Dalhousie season passed off on Wednesday, 26th ultimo. The Assembly Rooms were not so crowded as on previous occasions and the dance lacked that *verve* that usually characterizes these festive gatherings. The season here is languishing and will soon have died a natural death. Most of Dalhousie society is departing for the plains, and all are busy making preparations for the perspective gaieties of the Lahore season and the Durbar week.

The troops in garrison here at Dalhousie have been practising for the forthcoming manœuvres at Lahore by a couple of field days which came off on the 3rd and 5th instants, respectively. On the first day the place of rendezvous was by the Church, and after assembling there the brigade advanced by way of Bakrotah Hill and placed a line of outposts overlooking the road to Kajiah. "D" Company and a part of "C" formed the outpost line, whilst the remainder of the battalion was in support, the troops from Mankote, Bannikhet and the depôt forming a reserve.

* * * * * *

On the second field day the range of hills S. S. W. of Dalhousie had to be occupied against an enemy supposed to be advancing from Bakloh. In this scheme the troops from Mankote did not have the pleasure of participating, they being under orders to leave for the plains the following day, whilst "D" Company, who were under orders to leave for the Fort, had to be inspected by the Commanding Officer after their military training course, and were also not on parade: however, the convalescents from the depôt and Bannikhet had some rough skirmishing over the hills and were granted an excellent opportunity of making themselves thoroughly acquainted with the geographical features of the surrounding country. The troops returned to camp about 1 o'clock. Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh was chief umpire on both occasions.

* * * * * *

The team for the "Honor and Glory" match fired at the range on the 6th instant, and concluded with an average of 77·40. Considering that only three companies were available to pick the team from and the inferior range here, the average is very good, being several points better than scored last year at Dagshai.

* * * * * *

Party "A" left for the plains on Sunday, 7th instant, composed of the Seaforths and Buffs from Mankote, and "D" Company of ours for relief of "F" Company at Fort Lahore.

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The party marched to Duniera, a distance of twenty-odd miles on the first day, the Fort detachment being timed to arrive at Lahore on the 11th instant, whilst the Seaforths and Buffs join their respective head-quarters at Ferozepore and Jullundur.

* * * * * *

Our time-expired men this year are leaving in small batches, nearly every homeward bound Trooper taking a few, instead of as last year when all our men left by the last three ships. The first hired transport, the *Victoria*, takes thirteen men home, whilst the third, *Dalwara*, takes four, the former leaving on the 11th and the latter on the 25th instant. These are the only men who will proceed home until after the Durbar, and consequently several of the "Twenty-fours" will have nearly eight years' service before reaching Portsmouth.

* * * * * *

The discomforts of the march were early experienced by the head-quarter wing, all the tents not required for the march being struck and returned to Stores a week before leaving, kit boxes and charpoys also being disposed of in the same manner. Messrs. Smith, Rodwell and Co. must have driven a furious trade with superfluous kits, the number of boxes despatched to Mian Mir through their agency being enormous.

* * * * * *

A picnic took place on the Dian Khund Range on Wednesday, 10th instant, for which some of the Sergeants were responsible.

* * * * * *

As well as causing the Battalion to lose several of its best soldiers, the trooping season is robbing the Rechabite Tent "Excelsior" of some of its staunchest members; they have not, however, been allowed to depart without some fraternal recognition of their services, and a correspondent supplies the following:—

"Perhaps one of the most interesting occasions, of many such, in the annals of "Excelsior" Tent No. 190, I. O. R., was reached on 20th September 1894. The evening began with a tea, to which 52 Rechabites sat down in the open air, with the balmy breezes from the snow-clad Himalayas blowing softly through the majestic pines o'erhead. After tea and a comfortable enjoyment of the "fragrant weed," the members repaired to the Tent Room to carry out the routine business of the Tent. This over, refreshments were again served; after this Brothers Palmer, Alexander and Lindsay were called forward to receive handsome testimonials on silk, as a parting mark of their comrades' esteem, on their leaving for England. Then followed the most interesting portion of the ceremony, *viz.*, the presentation of a Past Chief Ruler's sash and apron to Brother M. Cassels. This had been arranged as a surprise, and the expression of astonishment on Brother Cassels' face was a general source of amusement. In making the presentations the Chief Ruler addressed a few words to each recipient, and all briefly responded. An entertainment followed, in which many took part, and the evening's proceedings closed at 11 P.M."

The Tent now numbers about 100 members, and a hearty welcome awaits all who pay a visit to the Rechabite Hall, Mian Mir.

* * * * * *

Captain Sydney L. Robinson has been appointed to command the winter section at Dalhousie Depôt, and will consequently not march down country with head-quarters. Captain Robinson will have an excellent opportunity of indulging in his love for *shikar* during the ensuing winter and should make a splendid bag.

* * * * * *

A few days previous to the departure of the head-quarter wing for the plains, the temperature of Dalhousie became considerably cooler than it had been, the station experiencing several storms of hail and wind, whilst the numerous peaks of the Himalayas north of Dalhousie were subject to some severe falls of snow, causing them to re-assume the appearance they bore last April when the Battalion arrived from the plains.

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Sergeant Ronald Stewart has been granted a special furlough home for a period of six months.

* * * * * *

The Pipe-Major's pupils—the pipers of the Rajah of Kapurthala—accompanied the head-quarter wing on the march from Dalhousie to Pathankote, taking their turn with our band and pipes in playing along the road. On the first day the step they gave was much too quick and short, and great difficulty was experienced in keeping step to it, but after receiving a little instruction from the Drum-Major their big drummer managed to acquire the right beat and time, and they played the remainder of the journey—except between Dhar and Shahpur where their big drum broke—in very good style, whilst the amount of side they carried playing into Pathankote, the pipers blowing their hardest and the drummer performing with the sticks, caused no little astonishment to the inhabitants of that place.

* * * * * *

Great difficulty was experienced on the march of the head-quarter wing from the hills in disposing of the baggage, as starting from Dalhousie with ten camels deficient, this number was increased to thirty when Dhar was reached. Ekkas and coolies had to be hired at some camps to carry the baggage of the married people, and in some instances transport not being available it had to be handed over to a Bullock Train Agent and thus despatched to Mián Mír.

* * * * * *

Owing to there being no subaltern officers marching down country, there only being the Colonel, Major Campbell, Captain Mackenzie, who was in charge of the transport, and the Adjutant, the honor of carrying the colors devolved upon the Color-Sergeants. Color-Sergeants Wright and and Swan as senior and junior Color-Sergeants respectively being selected for this duty.

* * * * * *

Added to the fact that many of the Battalion have served in Hong-Kong, the war between China and Japan will be viewed with still greater interest by Captain Cavendish of our first Battalion having been selected by the War Office authorities as a special delegate to the Chinese Army. Captain Alfred Edward John Cavendish entered the service on 14th January 1880, became Lieutenant 1st July 1881, and was promoted Captain 12th June 1886, and is Senior Captain in the Ninety-first. He is responsible for the authorship of a book about "Corea," which has no doubt considerably influenced his selection as member of the delegation.

* * * * * *

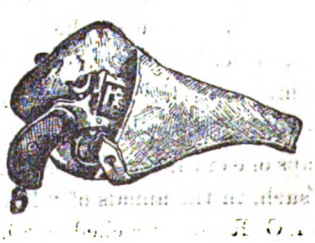
It may not be generally known, but will interest the majority of the sporting readers of the *Thin Red Line*, to know that Major Napier, who will shortly join as Second-in-Command of the Battalion, was a football player of no small repute in his younger days, he being instrumental in organising the Regimental Football Team at Portsmouth in 1884, playing centre forward in the eleven.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant and Adjutant H. P. Moulton Barrett has passed for promotion to the rank of Captain, for promotion to which rank he is second senior.

* * * * * *

The Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir George Stuart White, V.C., arrived at Pathankote by rail on the 20th instant *en route* to inspect the First Gurkha Rifles at Dharmsala. His Excellency arrived about 2 P.M. and was expected to visit our bivouac, the order being issued to the Battalion to lie down by their piled arms and await the General's arrival. Sir George White did not, however, pay the expected visit and after waiting a couple of hours the troops were dismissed.



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Football.

—o—

The Durand Tournament.

On the day following our match with the Welsh Fusiliers, the Devonshire Regiment met the King's Own Scottish Borderers; both teams hailing from Rawalpindi, the greatest excitement prevailed and a capital match resulted. The Devons unfortunately had a man hurt early in the game, and consequently had to play one short; this severely handicapped them, and after a plucky display they had to retire, defeated by 2 goals to 1.

On Friday, 21st, the second round was started, the Volunteers meeting the Somersets and securing a victory by 3 goals to 2. On the 24th the Highland Light Infantry beat the Bedfordshire Regiment, though the English team played a grand defensive game and gave the Seventy-fourth all they knew to win by 2 goals to *nil*. The next day the Scots Fusiliers met the Seaforths and a very hard game resulted in a draw after extra time had been played each way. This left two games to be decided on the 25th, the first one being between the King's Own Scottish Borderers and ourselves, in which we proved victorious by 2 goals to one. In justice to the Twenty-fifth, it is only right to say, however, that the element of luck was with our team, still, as this is the first time we have secured a victory over the Borderers, the result is most gratifying. A detailed account follows :—

Simla, 26th September.

Punctually at 3-30 P. M. the Twenty-fifth kicked off, and the ball had not been long in play before they managed, from a scrimmage in front of goal, to score. This early advantage gained by the Borderers seemed to have a most demoralising effect upon our team, who, with few exceptions, played a very loose game indeed; once or twice by some good play on the part of McLaren, our men managed to run the ball up to the Twenty-fifth's goal and had a chance of scoring, but the opportunities were lost and the game looked very black against us. Again the Borderers pressed, and had it not been for the remarkably cool play of Whitecross in goal, would have scored. After this the ball alternated between the two goals and several fouls were allowed, from one of which we nearly managed to equalise. Half time followed with the score standing—

King's Own Scottish Borderers 1
Ninety-third 0

Upon the game being resumed, the Twenty-fifth maintained the advantage they had gained; and again, had it not been for our goal-keeper, would have added still further to their score. This continued till about twelve minutes from the call of time, when a marvellous change came over the Ninety-third, and pulling themselves together they entirely changed the aspect of the game. Reid, who as an exception had been playing a good game all along, at this point equalised by securing our first goal, and continually pressing Duffin managed to register a second for us a few minutes before time. This proved the winning stroke, for on the whistle sounding the score stood—

Ninety-third 2
King's Own Scottish Borderers 1

This brought our team in the semi-final, beyond which they were not, however, fated to survive.

After this match had been decided the Twenty-first and Seaforths again met, and a very fast game resulted, the play being very rough. Eventually the Fusiliers won by 5 goals to 3, the Seaforths having very hard lines, being in the lead at half time.

Both games of the semi-final were decided on the 27th ultimo,—the first between the Highland Light Infantry and the Simla Volunteers taking place early in the afternoon, and resulting, as expected, in a win for the Seventy-fourth by 4 goals to *nil*. A large concourse of spectators had assembled to witness the second game, the match between the Twenty-first and ours, for both teams had done well in previous matches, and the result was an open question, and remained so until about ten minutes before time, then the Scots Fusiliers obtained their winning goal and kept the advantage to the last. Nothing can palliate our defeat; we played a good game against a good team,—and lost—that is all! A full account of the play is here given :—

Simla, 27th September.

Losing the toss, we started the ball from the Garden end, and at once commencing to press; the Twenty-first replied, but our back division was too strong, and the ball was returned. At this point McLaren was playing a fine and hard game, and passing a ball to Reid, the latter succeeded in heading a goal amidst loud applause from the on-lookers. After this our men played still harder, and had it not been for some excellent play on the part of the Fusiliers' backs—Park especially distinguishing himself as a goal-keeper—our men must have increased their scores. The play up to half time was very fast and hard, but the shooting of our forward line was wild and no increase in the score resulted. His Excellency the Viceroy arrived on the ground about this time and watched the game with interest to the finish. At half time the score stood—

Ninety-third 1
Royal Scots Fusiliers 0

Resuming after the interval the Fusiliers kicked off and our men again pressed, but kicked wild, when a chance of scoring occurred. Play of this description continued till within about 12 minutes of time, when the Twenty-first by a united rush succeeded after one or two futile attempts in getting the ball past Whitecross and scored their first point, thus equalising matters.

The match after this became more exciting, and our team strove their utmost to increase their score, but Park of the Scots Fusiliers several times took the goal-keeper's place and saved his side. On the whistle sounding the score stood—

Ninety-third 1
Royal Scots Fusiliers 1

It was then decided to play an extra fifteen minutes to decide the issue. The game was as fast as ever, and the ball was passed from one end of the field to the other without intermission. At one time Walls had a chance of scoring as he carried the ball well up the field, but missed the goal: the Twenty-first then returned the compliment, and from a scrimmage in front of the posts managed to rush a second goal amidst great excitement, and the first seven and a half minutes was over. After changing ends the scores remained unaltered to the finish, and the Royal Scots Fusiliers were thus victorious over us in the semi-final tie by two goals to one.

The following day the teams rested for the final, which was decided on Saturday, 29th ultimo. The match was a capital one from start to finish, and resulted in a win for the favourites, the Highland Light Infantry, by 1 goal to *nil*. In the first half the Seventy-fourth scored a goal, but it was disallowed, and at half time neither side had scored. Continuing, the "Killies" managed to score an undisputed goal, and maintaining their advantage to the call of time, retired again winners of the Durand Trophy. The Highland Light Infantry have thus the pleasure of seeing their names engraved upon the Cup for the year eighteen hundred and ninety-four.

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Visit to Bakloh.

—o—

SINCE stationed at Dalhousie it has always been my ambition to pay a visit to Bakloh, the well-known home of the 4th Gurkha Rifles, and which has deservedly the reputation of being the healthiest spot in India; but unfortunately the visit had to be postponed owing to the great stress of duty and shortness of non-com. available.

Having at last, however, surmounted all obstacles and obtained the necessary pass, I, with three others, packed all requisites, and the most energetic of the party having secured coolies, sworn at them in appropriate terms of the *bát* and despatched them, we all made tracks and arrived at the Dâk Bungalow, Mamúl, in about four hours time.

The road taken after leaving Dalhousie Post Office is the old Pathankote road, which is of the *kutcha* order, though tolerably level after passing the Brewery. For the first three miles or so the country was fairly well wooded, after which it became more open and sterile. Many good sized waterfalls were passed as well as mountain torrents,—in fact, water seemed very plentiful. The views obtained were magnificent, and the rivers Beas and Ravi were easily traced till lost in the hazy horizon.

On nearing Bakloh we overtook our coolies (on which insects one might write a most edifying essay) and here the road passed through some fine pine woods, in the centre of one of which we found the Dâk Bungalow.

This being our destination, we gladly halted and ordered dinner, which, however, we found could not be procured under four hours warning, so we reversed the usual order of things and had some tea first, then sauntered along to see Bakloh, of which we got but a dim view, it being already dusk. Availing ourselves of a kind invitation from the Bandmaster, we paid him a visit and received a hearty welcome, as well as some welcome pegs, and after some pleasant conversation returned to Mamúl, where we found dinner awaiting us. To the credit of the Dâk Bungalow authorities let it be said that, although they require plenty of warning to prepare dinner, still, when it is ready, it is worth eating.

After dinner we aired our army experiences and discussed some pegs, then retired for the night, and found the Mamúl atmosphere much milder than that of Dalhousie, one blanket even being almost more than could be borne with comfort.

Next morning I was awakened by our energetic member, and persuaded to get up and see the sun rise—I got up, but the sun did not—except in a desultory sort of way as if to say, "I don't exactly want to disappoint you after your trouble, but don't let it occur again ——admonished."

We then strolled towards barracks, passing the parade ground, of which our artist has made a sketch, and met several Gurkhas in mufti with rifles: shortly after which, hearing some firing, we went down to the ranges, and found that a shooting match at 200 yards standing, or, as the book has it—standing at 200 yards—was in progress. The range appeared remarkably level for a hill station, and some very good scores were put on while we were there.

Obeying the calls of the inner man we returned for breakfast, which we had taken the precaution to order over-night, and found it quite up to the standard raised by the dinner overnight.

After breakfast we paid a visit to the barracks and were greatly struck by the general neatness and cleanliness: the buildings are two storeyed, the upper storey being for the single men, whilst the lower one is inhabited by the married people, native regiments, as all my readers must know being allowed a far greater proportion of Benedicts than European ones.

Another feature which greatly struck us, and which would have delighted the heart of the most enthusiastic A. A. G. for Musketry, was the erection in all available spaces of dummy targets for practice aiming drill.

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When leaving the barracks we heard some children's voices shouting some familiar air; so approaching cautiously, imagine our surprise on discovering four dusky young mortals, averaging about five years of age, seated in a circle shouting at the top of their voices something to the tune of "Hielan Laddie" and beating proper drum time with sticks, one doing solo drummer, and the others coming in in their proper places. This I think proves conclusively that there is but little danger of the military instinct of the 4th Gurkhas dying out.

A visit was then paid to the piper's room and minute inspection made of their review order dress, which was found to consist of almost a full Highland rig-out—spats, hose-tops, garters, green knicker-bockers, green doublet, tartan plaid, brooch and a Glengarry bonnet, with badge consisting of cross kukris with the numerals IV in the centre.

Following this inspection we returned to our head-quarters, where we partook of lunch, or, as the energetic member who is also a Hindustani scholar, said "tiffin," which had also to be ordered beforehand, and then summoning our coolies we departed for Ticca Spur, which we reached safely after a most interesting and enjoyable two days' pass.

ON PASS.

MANY years ago there was a Color-Sergeant in the regiment named Andrew Fraser. He was merely a lad when he went out with the regiment to the Crimea, but in the year 1860 had developed into a really smart handsome fellow. He was good-looking and knew it; took a laudable pride in himself and was one of the smartest and best looking soldiers in the regiment.

He was a good athlete, and, taken all round, was about as good as they make them. He was known in the regiment as "Tippy Dan." When Dan was out on the mash it was a treat to see him; from the crown of his curly head, to the soles of his boots he was simply faultless. He indulged in such luxuries as scents and pomatum, and on one occasion having received an invitation from the Sergeants of the Artillery (the regiment was then in Rawalpindi) he called at the mess just before starting to keep his appointment, and passing through the billiard-room on his way to the "glory hole" left quite an aroma behind him. He was scarcely out of the billiard-room when the Pipe Major, John McLeod, entered, and halting on the threshold, gave one or two audible sniffs and said: "Bless me! who has been combing their hair with that smell."

:o:

We were left on the Plains,
The left half complains,
As they pensively think of the Hills;
And with fever and shakes,
Heat complexion and aches,
We've had more than our fair share of ills.

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From Dalhousie with "D" Company.

—o—

AT an early hour on the morning of Sunday 6th October, and under very favourable climatic circumstances, a party, which included "D" Company of ours and detachments of the Seaforth Highlanders and East Kent Regiment, started from their respective camps, and sped their ways towards Duneira, which was the first rest-camp on the journey to the plains, and is, by-the-bye, a good 23 miles from Dalhousie. The morning being beautifully cool the march was enjoyed immensely, though by the time the half-way house at Nanaikhud was reached, the heat began to remind them that they had left their "Home" climate, for to such that of Dalhousie can almost be compared.

The usual half-way house "feed" was "lowered" with evident relish, and having been refreshed they again marched off, much satisfied with themselves and those who had first suggested the institution of a "half-way house."

Marching along one could not but admire the scenery which, along this road, is both varied and beautiful, and for those who take an interest in collecting ferns it can confidently be said that they would be more than recompensed for their walk by the many fine specimens of silver and other rare varieties which they are sure, with very little trouble, to find. As the day advanced, however, and the heat became more oppressive, interest was lost even in the beauties of nature, and all moved on in that quiet, dogged, determined mood, which is so characteristic of the British soldier.

At last, after a "gey stiff march in rale hot weather," the village and camping ground of Duneira was espied in a hollow to the left, into which they marched a "tora fed nae doot," but otherwise in good condition and wanting no sleeping draught to ensure a good night's repose.

On *reveillè* sounding next morning they arose much refreshed and ready for another day's work.

Their destination this day was Dhar, over 10 miles distant, and nothing unusual occurring they all arrived in due time. The water-supply here is good, but there is nothing particularly interesting about the place. As usual, the troops filled in the afternoon in giving their arms and accoutrements a good "beasing," whilst in the evening a few of ours gathered together, and under the very able chairmanship of Color-Sergeant McDonald and accompanied by "Ned" on his beloved violin, had an open air concert, which was largely attended by their comrades, the "Dusra Wallahs," and they thus spent a most enjoyable evening.

Next day after the usual routine they marched into Shahpur, their third rest-camp. This by-the-way is a pretty little camping ground with short green grass, the old ruins about 100 yards distant giving it a most picturesque appearance. In the evening, owing to the success which attended the previous night's concert, they had another, the "Flag," again officiating as chairman, while the Seaforths and Buffs most willingly gave their assistance.

The concert was in full swing when it had to be reluctantly brought to a close by the sounding of the "First Post" and all retired to rest. Next morning before daybreak they were up and at it ag ain, and in good time sent off the baggages, their long-necked chums having been exchanged at this station for much fitter animals. They sped along at a good pace, and arrived at Pathankote, the last rest-camp, a good hour before the troops. Having thus reached the end of their journey by road they spent the afternoon in preparing for their journey by rail.

Work being over their energetic chairman got them together to have a parting sing-song, and during which it was particularly noticeable that a call from the chairman was at all times most enthusiastically responded to, plainly showing how they appreciated what little trouble was taken for their entertainment, but as they had to entrain at 9 P.M., they had, much to the chagrin of many enthusiastic "Dusra Wallahs" who had volunteered their services, to cut short their third and last open air concert. These concerts were a great success, and after the first one their comrades of the Seventy-eighth and Buffs used to

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gather in the vicinity of their lines in expectant two's and three's, which doubtless was a sign of satisfaction to the popular chairman. According to pre-arrangements the Buffs detachment entrained with them, leaving the Seaforths to follow on the following morning. However, amidst the usual rushing about of railway officials, ours quietly entrained about 9 P.M, and at midnight the train steamed cheerfully out of the station followed by the "So longs" of their comrades of the Seventy-eighth.

Nothing of any consequence occurred till Amritsar was reached, where a halt for over two hours was called, and where they were visited by the medical officer. In the meantime the carriages containing the Buffs detachment were shunted on to another line for Jullundur, and at 7-30 A.M the train steamed out of Amritsar Station for Mian Mir East, arriving there about 9 A.M. At this station the staff and attached non-commissioned officers and men detrained, leaving those who had been selected for duty at Fort Lahore to proceed on their journey; this detachment arriving at Lahore Station about 20 minutes afterwards, and having sent on their baggage they marched into the Fort about 11-30 A.M. and relieved the "plain parrots."

W. D. M.

It is apt to cause you choler to drive a camel wallah,
For the man is just as awkward as the blooming quadruped;
And I'll bet a paper collar or even half a dollar,
That after all is over you are more than nearly fed.

Reflections in the Guard Room.

—o—

Where am I? Bless my soul, in bed,
Confound it, no! I'm on the floor;
But what's this plank beneath my head?
And where's my blooming bag of straw?

Why, bless my soul, I'm not awake,
But what has made me sleep so sound?
My head feels sore, my limbs all ache—
Tommy Atkins, you'r dreaming, I'll be bound.

Come, Thomas, rouse yourself, my lad—
Yes, pinch your arm—there, that will do:
Now rub your eyes: d'ye see? Begad,
Dreaming or not, its all quite true.

Ah! someone shouting "who goes there?"
And "Friend," Pass friend, all's well;
Did'st hear that, Boy? Are you aware
Of what you've done, and where you dwell?

"Tis just my luck, I do declare;
Instead of putting me to bed,
My friends, most always, bring me here,
And so my sheet gets marked with red.

My last offence—why let me see—
It must have been ten days ago:
I think I got 10 days C.B.,
My fine was seven-and-six I know.

And now its seventeen-and-six
Within a fortnight thrown away,
And nought to show but blows and kicks,
And several bills I'll have to pay.

T. A. my boy, we've played the fool,
And sober down we really must;
This very day we'll make our rule,
Never to go upon the "Bust."

A VETERAN,
In the *Light Bob Gazette.*

—:o:—

Dalhousie to Mian Mir.

—o—

THE march of the right half Battalion from Dalhousie to Pathankote and training from Pathankote to Mian Mir admits of but little description, it being simply the order of the march up-country as described in these columns, with the exception of the last two journeys which on the road up were condensed into one.

We left Dalhousie on the morning of the 16th instant, reaching Pathankote on the 20th instant, trained the same day, and arrived at Mian Mir on the morning of the 21st.

On the first march, the road being all down hill the toes of the troops were severely tried, and the transport being deficient, the baggage was considerably delayed.

Great amusement was afforded at the camp at each issue of beer, prices were raised and the quantity diminished, presumably to pay for the

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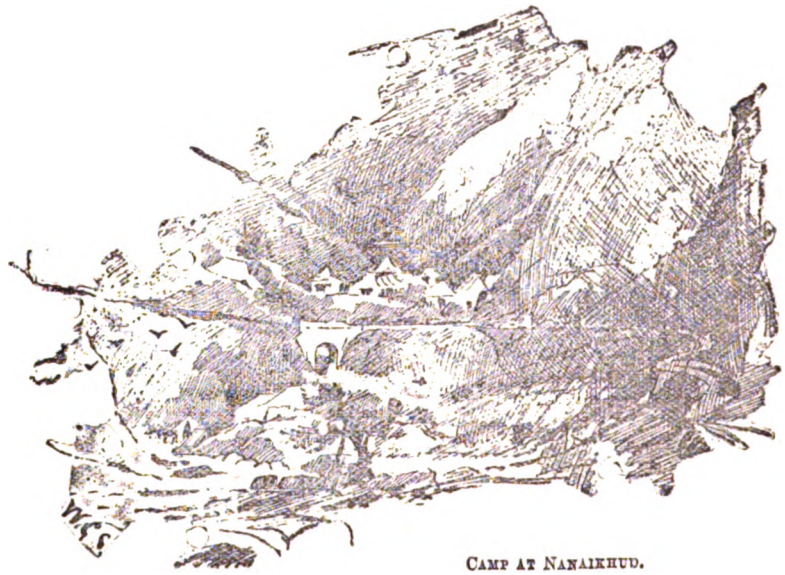
carriage of the liquor down country. On the first march there was no half-way house, owing, I have no doubt, to the difficulty of obtaining suitable water for cooking purpose; the position taken up at Nanaikhud was the same as on the march up and the usual routine was observed. On the first two mornings *reveillé* sounded at 5 A.M. and we marched off at 7-30 A.M., but on the last two, though *reveillé* sounded at the same time, a move was made an hour earlier, thus dodging one hour of the mid-day sun. Great was the difference experienced in the night air from that of Dalhousie, and at every station it appeared to be milder. When Duniera—where we experienced the terrible storm marching up—was reached, the transport had suffered a still greater diminution through some deaths among the camels, and here coolies were impressed into our service, whilst, strange to say, on our arrival at Pathankote the number of camels were in increase of those indented for, the wily camel-wallah having recruited among the halt and the blind and the maim, and so brought up the number, but Captain Mackenzie who was in charge of the Transport was not to be caught napping as the camel-wallah found to his cost. From Duniera we marched to Dah where we found things much the same as we had left them in April. At this station there was a most amusing rush at 4 o'clock to the



CAMP AT NANAIKHUD.

canteen, and five minutes before opening time there was a line of quite forty men seated in a line armed with basins, quart pots and canteens, waiting for the issue of beer; those at the beginning of the line looked confident, but there was a dubious look on the faces of those at the tail end. The precaution of being in good time was quite necessary as some at the last camp had to go beerless to bed. Shahpur, our next camping ground, which we skipped on our march up, was by far the most picturesque camp of the lot; and we lay on a bluff beside some old ruined fortifications, the camping ground was in glorious condition, and the views obtainable magnificent. Right underneath us flowed the river Ravi, running in some places quite smoothly, whilst in others with surprising force, and in one place where the cliff jutted out there was a

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most dangerous whirlpool: it was here, I believe, that the Seaforths lost one poor fellow on their march up-country.

Bathing was forbidden, but it was a grand sight lying down on the edge of the cliff watching the river roll past and listening to its roaring as it passed through the shallower portions of its bed.

An interesting sight, and one new to most of us, was watching the natives cross on their mussuks and then pick them up and walk off with them on their backs. From Shahpur to Pathankote was a very short march, though dusty, and passing through several brooklets that took us up to our ankles did not improve the appearance of our spat.

On our arrival at Pathankote considerable time was occupied in loading the train with our baggage, also loading the tents in another train for the arsenal at Ferozepore, and a little diversion was obtained by watching the antics of two performing bears.

The natives in charge had a rising scale of charges: "one pice make it a salaam," "two pice make it a wrestle," and "one pice more make it a fight." The troops watched the performance with interest, but when the collection of the pice commenced one and all seemed to recollect that there were fatigues on. We did not entrain till 7-30 P. M., and the pleasures of a troop train did not seem to have increased since our last experience of them. We detrained next morning at 6 A. M. after a most uncomfortable night, and after all baggage had been packed on the bullock carts and escorted to the bungalows, we found ourselves once more established at Mian Mir.

For a soldier he was neat,
And it really was a treat,
To watch him marching stiff as any poker;
But he was caught at last,
And one day he got cast,
For he forgot to use his yellow ochre.

First Battalion Notes.

—o—

The Aldershot News brings us week by week news of our first battalion from that military centre that not a few of us are so well acquainted with, and which, with the arrival of the new draft in December, will become still fresher upon our memories. The Army Temperance Association seems to be in great favour with our home battalion, a smoking concert being held in order to start a regimental branch. Major Wilson presided, supported by Sergeant-Major Williamson. A capital programme was gone through and the room was crowded. Major Wilson gave an address on the subject of temperance, and included his experience of the value of the Army Temperance Association in India. The Revd. Mr. Andrews—an old friend of this battalion—briefly explained the aims of the Society, and spoke of its success in other battalions in the brigade. Major Wilson was unanimously elected President, Pioneer Sergeant Robb, Secretary, and Sergeant Instructor Cockrane, Treasurer. On the invitation being given to the men to come and enroll themselves as members, an unprecedented rush took place, and the Secretaries had a busy time; in fact, the available pledge books were used up, the number admitted being 117. Football is now in full swing at home, and the first battalion team is well up in the divisional football tournament.

The Company Football League is also progressing, the following being the results up to date:—

Company.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Goals. For.	Against.	Points.
"B" ...	2	2	0	23	3	4
"E" ...	2	2	0	9	5	4
"C" ...	2	1	1	15	4	2
"F" ...	2	1	1	8	6	2
"G" ...	2	1	1	5	6	2
"H" ...	2	0	2	4	14	2
"O" ...	2	0	2	3	24	0

Weekly dances take place in the Drill Hall, the band and pipers being in attendance. These dances were originally started whilst the battalion was in Hong-Kong, and were continued in Edinburgh Castle after return from foreign service.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

THAT the football team did not win the Simla Cup.
That they tried their best.
That they didn't get "extras."
That at times they didn't even get their rations.
That their boots fell to pieces.
That the Somersets were friends indeed.
That they should buck up for Lucknow.
That it hopes the regiment will send them there.
That they should start training at once.
That the invitations to the Sergeants' picnic were similar to the ways of the "Heathen Chinee."
That two Corporals had a shooting match.
That neither won.
That both made a possible—misses.
That it did field days in the hills.
That the convalescents must have enjoyed them.
That "D" Company carried side on the march.
That it has left the "Hills."
That it blistered its feet on the march.
That the Coffee Shop Wallahs had no sleep.
That it paid 5 annas for a quart of beer.
That it got short measure.
That some one could always afford the Dâk Bungalow.
That a bandsman was mounted.
That it got "in them" as usual, at Pathankote.
That the C.-in-C. was the cause of it.
That "A" troop holds the "scruff."
That they don't do fatigues.
That its cousin is in with ague.
That there is a local "Pachmari."
That it is in "E" Company.
That it wishes the Durbar was over.
That it has lots of fatigues.
That Jeshuron waxed fat and kicked.
That a Sergeant on the plains waxed so fat that kicking was an impossibility.
That it wonders when there'll be a "Gaff."

Regimental Gazette.

G. C. Pay.—Sergeant-Major J. McRae and No. 217 Color-Sergeant J. Wright, "B" Company, and No. 413 Color-Sergeant T. Spedding, "A" Company, eligible for 4*d.* No. 2976 Private W. McLean, No. 2921 Private E. Glasgow, "B" Company, No. 2920 Private G. Lawson, "C" Company, No. 2992 Lance-Corporal R. McBean, "D" Company, No. 4804 Private H. Holloway, "F" Company, No. 2953 Private A. McKellar, No. 2985 Private J. Dudgeon, and No. 2987 Private D. McDonald, "H" Company, granted 2*d.* No. 4501 Piper J. MacKenzie, "C" Company, and No. 4291 Private P. Wilson, "G" Company, granted 1*d.* No. 2902 Private A. Wilkie and No. 3395 Private D. Elliott, "D" Company, No. 3494 Private C. Gray, "F" Company, and No. 2779 Private G. Martin, "G" Company, restored 1*d.*

Promotions.—No. 1826 Color-Sergeant McIntosh to be Orderly Room Sergeant. No. 1856 Lance-Corporal McAvoy promoted Pioneer Sergeant and transferred to Rifle Brigade.

Transfers.—No. 3133 Lance-Sergeant W. Murdock and No. 4314 Dr. W. Hughes, "D" Company, and No. 4524 Private A. Anderson, "E" Company, and Private H. Armstrong, "H" Company, transferred from Hill Depôt to head-quarters. Corporal R. Millar, "B" Company, and Corporal H. Olden, "D" Company, and No. 4337 Private W. H. Smith, "B" Company, No. 3627 Private J. Burgess, "D" Company, transferred from head-quarters to Hill Depôt. No. 2461 Private G. Green transferred from "F" to "B" Company.

Certificate of Education.—No. 3219 Corporal P. Nixon, "D" Company, has been awarded a second class Certificate of Education.

Nursing Certificates.—No. 3975 Private R. Donnelly, "B" Company, No. 3745 Private

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McLachlan and No. 3131 Private W. Murphy, "D" Company, have been granted certificates for proficiency in Stretcher and Nursing Duties. No. 3206 Private E. Smith, No. 4160 Private J. Young, No. 4240 Private J. Isdale and No. 4186 Private J. Shearer, "F" Company, have been granted certificates for proficiency in Stretcher Duties.

Employment.—No. 1378 Sergeant M. Garrigan to be Garrison Provost Sergeant at Dalhousie, No. 4311 Private A. Wight, "C" Company, to be Garrison Provost, No. 1994 Sergeant R. Mitchell, "F" Company, to be Rest Camp Sergeant at Mian Mir.

Extension of Service.—No. 2529 Sergeant Donald Blair, "E" Company, and No. 2516 Sergeant J. Hay, "A" Company, No. 3146 Lance-Sergeant W. Clarke, "H" Company, and No. 4279 Private D. Gordon, "D" Company, have been permitted to extend their service to complete twelve years with the colors.

Recruit Joined.—Duncan William McBean posted to "E" Company.

Musketry Prize Statement.

"C" COMPANY.

	£	s.	d.
No. 2773 Private G. Brown	0	16	6¾
„ 2388 „ G. Morrison ...	0	13	3
„ 2886 Corporal W. Millar	0	13	3
„ 4011 Private W. Brocklehurst ...	0	8	10
„ 2416 „ H. Whyte ...	0	7	8¾
„ 3579 „ A. Casey	0	7	8¾
„ 2643 „ A. McArthur ...	0	7	0¾
„ 2853 „ J. Dunsmore ...	0	6	7¼
„ 2630 „ D. Kellie	0	5	11¾
Commander of Best Shooting Section—			
No. 4077 Sergeant R. Stewart ...	0	10	10½
Commander of Second Best Section—			
No. 2886 Corporal W. Millar ...	0	5	3¼

Casuals.

No. 2749 Private J. French, "E" Company	0	7	6
„ 2414 Private F. Brannen, "B" Company	0	6	0
„ 3173 Private J. Pake, "D" Company	0	5	0

DEATH.

McTaggart.—At Mian Mir, on the 30th ultimo, No. 4071 Private R. McTaggart, "H" Company, of heat apoplexy.

The Bagpipes.

—o—

IN the last volume of the "History and Decline of the Roman Empire," Mr. Gibbon observes that "experience has proved that the mechanical operation of sounds, by quickening the circulation of the blood and spirits, will act on the human machine more forcibly than the eloquence of reason and honour." Of this remark, the following anecdotes, from a Tour in England and Scotland, is a remarkable illustration. Beyond all memory or tradition, the favourite instrument of the Scotch musician has been the bagpipe, introduced into Scotland at a very early period by the Norwegians. The large bagpipe is the instrument of the Highlanders for war, funeral processions, for marriage, and other great occasions. They have also a smaller kind, on which dancing tunes are played. A certain species of this wind-music, called pibrochs, rouses the native Highlanders in the same way that the sound of the trumpet does the war-horse, and even produces effects little less marvellous than those recorded of the ancient music. At the battle of Quebec, in April, 1760, while the British troops were retreating in great confusion, the General Officer complained to a Field Officer of Fraser's regiment, of the bad behaviour of his corps. "Sir," answered he, with some warmth, "you did very wrong in forbidding the pipers to play; nothing encourages Highlanders so much in a day of action; nay, even now they would be of use." "Let them blow then like the devil," replied the general, "if that will bring back the men." The pipes were ordered to play a favourite martial air. The Highlanders, the moment they heard the music, returned, and formed with alacrity in the rear.

The following (more recent) anecdote is related of Sergeant Alex. Cameron, pipe-major of the 92nd, or Gordon Highlanders, whose merits as a performer on the Highland bagpipes were generally acknowledged to be of the first kind, though they could not be duly appreciated but by those who felt the inspiring

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effect of his animating strains on the toilsome march, or amid the thunder of the battle. He served in the Peninsula during the whole of the late war, and, by his zeal, attracted the notice of several officers of high rank. Lieut.-Gen. Sir William Erskine, in a letter to a friend after the affair of Rio del Molinas, says—"The first intimation the enemy had of our approach, was the pipes of the 92nd playing 'Hey Johnie Cope, are ye waking yet!'" In this favourite air, from Cameron's pipe, the streets of Brussels re-echoed on the 15th June, when the regiment assembled to march out to the field of Waterloo. Once, and once only, was this brave soldier missed in his accustomed place in the front of the battle, and the occasion strongly marks the powerful influence which the love of fame had upon his mind. In a London paper, a very flattering eulogium had appeared on the conduct of the piper of another regiment. Our gallant musician, conscious that no one could surpass him in zeal or intrepidity, felt hurt that he should not also have gained this flattering distinction, and declared that "if his name did not appear in the newspapers, he would no more play in the battle field." Accordingly, in the next affair with the enemy, Cameron's "bellows ceased to blow"—his pipe was mute! Some insinuations against the piper reached his ear. The bare idea of his motives becoming misunderstood was torture to poor Cameron, and overcame at once the sullen resolution he had formed of remaining silent in the rear. He rushed forward, and, not content with gaining his place at the head of the regiment, advanced with a party of skirmishers, and placing himself on a height in full view of the enemy, continued to animate the party by playing favourite national airs.

The Sprig of Shillelagh.

———:o:———

IT is now twenty-nine years ago from the 1st of this month since letters were adopted instead of numbers for the designation of companies in the regiment, and the following Regimental Order, dated at Sialkot, 27th September 1865, authorizes the change.

"In compliance with Circular Memo. General No. 343, dated Horse Guards, 10th June 1865, commencing from 1st October 1865, companies will revert to the designations by letters instead of by numbers in the following order":—

Company Number.	*Company Letter.*
No. 4	A
„ 8	B
„ 11	C Depôt Company.
„ 7	D
„ 12	E Depôt Company.
„ 6	F
„ 1	G
„ 9	H
„ 5	I
„ 2	K
„ 10	L
„ 3	M

———:o:———

Rifle Competition.

—o—

CORPORALS *v.* LANCE-CORPORALS.

ON the afternoon of the 26th ultimo a match took place between teams of eight Lance-Corporals and eight Corporals, resulting in a win for the juniors by 33 points. The distance was 700 yards; the scores being 121 by the Lance-Corporals against 88 by the Corporals. The highest scores for the winners was Lance-Corporal Crichton with 29, whilst Corporal Watters for the losers headed the list with 25.

———:o:———

At the Fort.

—o—

"F" COMPANY'S stay in garrison here was during the hottest part of the summer, but despite this, a concert was held in the Shish Mahal Palace on the 20th September, to which the garrison flocked in full force.

The programme, which was a succession of comic and sentimental songs followed by minstrel entertainment, was well patronised by the civil population of Lahore.

The feature of the evening was the humorous way in which Private Elliot sang "I could do with a little very well" and "Round and round." Special mention must also be made of Lance-Corporal Brodie and Private Halleron in their song and dance in character, the rendering of "Teddy O'Neill" by Miss North, and

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the comic sketch entitled "Quite harmless" by "Professors" Johnstone and Elliot, which created roars of laughter. Mrs. North's rendering of "Edinboro' Town" was vociferously encored, in return for which she gave "Cushla-Machree" in grand style. Privates Barnard and McBrain then treated the audience to a duet on their mandolines and are to be congratulated on their proficiency, whilst the singing of Lance-Sergeant Stevens, King's Royal Rifles, Corporal Hynch and Privates McBrain and Ackland was of a first-class order.

The enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the fort minstrel troupe, whose songs and side-splitting jokes were deservedly applauded. The troupe consisted of the following: Interloqutor, Corporal Inglis; Bones, Sergeant Stevens; Tambo, Private Elliot; Circle, Privates McBrain, Barnard and Ackland, whilst Mrs. and Miss North also assisted. Sergeant Meston proved himself a most efficient and amusing preambulating chairman.

* * * * * *

"F" Company left the Fort early on the morning of the 11th instant, the acting Sergeant-Major and the guard remaining in garrison to hand over to "D" Company. The company in relief arriving by train from Pathankote later on in the day under the command of Second Lieutenant H. C. Macdonald with Sergeants Blair and Murdock, and the full complement of rank and file.

* * * * * *

The new detachment have not been long in settling down, as on the 20th instant "D" Company produced a variety entertainment that equalled, if it did not surpass, any of those given by previous garrisons; probably "D" Company having just arrived from the hills may account for their surprising energy and for the general excellence of the performance for which acting Sergeant-Major J. Blair was responsible.

The programme opened with an overture arranged by Sergeant Stevens, King's Royal Rifles, which was followed by a Scotch song "Logie O'Buchan," which Miss North sang with much expression. Private Barnard's ventriloquial entertainment as usual was of a high order and drew forth rounds of applause. A violin solo by Private McCulloch, an exhibition of Indian club swing by Sergeant Murdoch, a song by Lieutenant Tweedie and Lieutenant Macdonald's "Tommy Atkins" were all excellent. Doctor Keatley received an encore for "Killaloe" as did Sergeant Murdoch for his song "The Bugler." Sergeant Stevens after singing "The Interval" had to appear again, and gave in response the "Coster's Courtship." Corporal Inglis recited, whilst Mr. Mathews, G. T. D. Corporals Durnan and Richmond, and Privates Murphy, Drummond, Connell and Hennie, excelled as vocalists.

The Amateur Orchestra—a new departure at the Fort—contributed greatly to the enjoyment by playing during the intervals.

———.o:———

Yearly Subscriptions.

—o—

WE beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions for one year from the following:—

Sergeant Tyndall.

———:o:———

Editorial.

—o—

THE October Number of the *Celtic Month* is to hand and contains some most interesting and valuable information, more especially regarding the Highland clans; notice is also given of a "History of Sutherland and the Reay Country"* now in the press, which will contain over 300 pages and be published at a price within the reach of all. As the country mentioned in these pages is the country to which this regiment owes its origin, might we suggest to the Editor the good and useful work he could do for us in inducing men of that part to enlist in their old Corps. Every one is aware that now-a-days Stirling is our recruiting depôt, but why we have not a depôt in Sutherlandshire, and why that shire and the sister one of Caithness are not within our recruiting limits, is best known to the War Office authorities.

A Highlander is proverbially canny, but a considerable number enlist yearly, and many more would no doubt adopt the army as a profession were its advantages put before them in a proper light. An alien regiment at present recruits in the district in which the old Ninety-third, "the most Highland of Highland Regiments," was raised; for this state of affairs the powers that be are responsible, but the men of Caithness and Sutherland should know that the regiment for them is the Corps in which their forefathers fought and died, the regiment that, for its crest, bears the Sutherland Cat with the motto "Sans Peur" (Without fear), and wears as its distinctive livery the tartan of the Ducal House of Sutherland.

* *Sutherland and the Reay Country.*—Edited by Rev. Adam Gunn, M. A., Durness and John Mackay, Kingston, Glasgow; cloth boards, gilt, crown octavo, Rs. 5.

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

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We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following :—

"The Soldier."
"The Vedette" (21st Hussars).
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.).
"The XVI" (16th Bedfordshire Regiment).
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Lancashire Lad" (47th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"The Tiger and Sphinx" (75th Gordon Highlanders).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The Globe and Laurel" (Royal Marines).
"The American Guard," Gazette of the 71st Regiment N. Y. N. G.
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Celtic Monthly."
"John O'Groats Journal"
"The Man of the World."

———o———

COMPANY AGENTS.

—o—

"A" Company—Private Watson.
"B" " — " Cassels.
"C" " —Lance-Corporal Stewart.
"D" " — " " Rankin.
"E" " — " " Prendergast.
"F" " — " " Brodie.
"G" " —Private Buckland.
"H" " —Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Private Miller.
Dalhousie Depôt—Lance-Corporal Forbes.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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NOTA BENE.

—o—

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 11.—Vol. I. MIAN MIR,—NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 1894. Price, 2 Annas

SKIRLS

THE men of the right and left wings shook hands on the 21st October after a separation of just over six months. Convivial evenings were spent in the Canteen and A. T. A. to celebrate the re-union, and the merits of the hill and plains freely discussed.

* * * * * *

The chief occupation of the troops since the arrival of the right wing from the hills has been cleaning barracks, all the surplus grass and weeds being cleared away from the bungalows and burned, whilst the long grass and bushes on the parade ground have been treated in a similar manner.

We take the following from the *Statesman*:—

Before leaving Calcutta for Rome, His Grace Dr. P. Goethals, Archbishop of Calcutta, caused the following letter to be sent through his chaplain to Mr. Forbes-Mitchell, together with a catalogue of His Grace's library, subscribed:—

"To Wm. Forbes-Mitchell, Esq., 6, Garden Reach, Calcutta.

"Dear Sir,—By desire of His Grace the Archbishop, I have much pleasure in sending you a catalogue of his library. His Grace has read your 'Mutiny Reminiscences' with the greatest interest and pleasure. You will see from the collection of his books that he is in a position to appreciate a work on Indian History. His Grace will be happy to let you have access to his library for any information his books can give you, on any subject in which you are interested.

"As for myself, I confess I have again read from cover to cover your most delightful 'Reminiscences.'—

"Yours truly,
"V. Marshal, S. J."

The last mail from New Zealand brought Mr. Forbes-Mitchell a letter from the Right Rev. William Garden Cowie, D. D., Bishop of Auckland and Primate of New Zealand, late chaplain to the 3rd Division of Sir Colin Campbell's army at Lucknow. The letter is accompanied by a beautiful cabinet-sized photograph of Bishop Cowie, with the Mutiny and Umbeyla Pass medals on his

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breast. Readers of Forbes-Mitchell's "Reminiscences" may remember that the men of the 93rd Highlanders, although mostly Presbyterians, had adopted the Rev. Mr. Cowie, Church of England. Chaplain to the Division, as one of themselves under the name of "The Fighting Padre." But let the Bishop's present letter speak for itself. It proves him to be still a tolerant and broad minded Christian, and one is almost compelled to express regret that instead of being chosen Primate of New-Zealand he was not promoted to be Chaplain-General to the British Army. His letter is as follows:—

"Bishop's Court, Auckland, September 19th, 1894.

"DEAR MR. FORBES-MITCHELL,—I am encouraged to write to you by the kindly mention you have made of me in a letter addressed by you to my old friend Mrs. Hudson, now residing at Barrackpore, near Calcutta.

"I received a copy of your most interesting 'Reminiscences' soon after their publication, and read them with the greatest interest.

"If you publish a second edition of the volume, perhaps you will like to embody the following in connection with the funeral at Rooyah, which you have described so well.

"When asked to take the funeral service on that mournful occasion, I hesitated, thinking that the 93rd, being a Highland regiment, would naturally prefer having a Presbyterian Minister to officiate. However, such was the thoughtfulness of the men unanimously that they desired to show respect for the memory of their beloved Colonel, Adrian Hope, by having the service of the Church of England, of which they knew he was a member. Accordingly I was requested to lead the service, and I arranged that brothers Drennan and Ross (chaplains of the 93rd and 42nd) should read the Psalms appointed in the Prayer Book, and I repeated the Service by heart, using no book, out of respect to the Presbyterian members around the grave.

"The last time I was at a parade service with the dear old 93rd was on a Sunday in November 1863, when I caught up the regiment on their march to the hills to take part in the Umbeyla Pass Campaign. On the following morning the regiment was paraded to be dosed with quinine, for the after-effect of its severe suffering through Peshawar fever and cholera. Were you still with them then?

"I went on to Umbeyla, and was present at the capture of Laloo with the 101st, the old 1st Bengal Fusiliers. I shall be glad to hear from you.

"With best wishes,—Yours faithfully,

"W. G. AUCKLAND,
"Bishop."

As a proof of the wide circulation of Mr. Forbes-Mitchell's "Reminiscences" it may be mentioned that the same mail also brought him a letter from Mr. J. Irvine Davidson, of Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, claiming Mr. Forbes-Mitchell as an old Aberdonian chum of forty-four years ago.

* * * * * *

Balaclava Day passed off quite uneventfully in the battalion, there being no celebration of any kind and no one would have known that the 25th October was a red letter day in the annals of the Ninety-third. Head-quarters having only just arrived from the hills prevented the usual annual celebration in the Sergeant's Mess, but it is proposed to hold the day later in the year after all the Durbar festivities are over.

* * * * * *

The convalescents from Dalhousie Depôt arrived on the 1st November under Lieutenant A. Patten and Sergeant A. MacDonald consisting of 63 men. The Depôt—with the exception of those left for the winter section—broke up on the 26th, the convalescents marching to Pathankote and from thence training to their various destinations.

* * * * * *

A few days previous to the Dalhousie Depôt breaking up, a football match took place between Nos. 3 and 4 sections, the former consisting of Scots Fusiliers, whilst the latter is the Ninety-third section. After a spirited game No. 4 section proved themselves victorious by 3 goals to 1, thus wiping out the defeat of our regimental team by the Twenty-first at Simla.

* * * * * *

"B" Company furnished a guard-of-honor for the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab on his arrival at Lahore on the 6th November. Captain Cameron was in command with Lieutenants Patten and Darroch, the latter carrying the Regimental Color. One hundred rank and file were on parade, "B" Company being made up to that strength by "A" and "C" Companies.

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Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick arrived punctually at 7-45 and was received with a general salute, after which, accompanied by General Frankfort, he inspected the guard and proceeded to Government House escorted by sections of the Punjab Light Horse and Bengal Lancers. A guard of the 1st Punjab Rifle Volunteers together with the Police Band was also in attendance.

* * * * * *

At a Battalion parade soon after arriving from the hills, Sergeant R. McConnell was presented with the Good Conduct Medal by the Commanding Officer. Sergeant McConnell has in addition the Afghan Medal and Star which he obtained whilst serving in the Ninety-second Highlanders and also the Burma Medal for 1885-86-87.

* * * * * *

The companies of the left wing commenced Military Training soon after the arrival of the right from the hills, but it had to be suspended owing to the scarcity of non-commissioned officers available for duty, which for a time was very heavy, as many as six guards mounting daily for a short time.

* * * * * *

The Polo team has been practising and should be in good form for any team they may meet during the coming season.

* * * * * *

"C" Company's usual quarterly rifle competition came off on the range on the 15th November in rather windy weather.

* * * * * *

Parties of musketry casuals have been going through their annual course during the months, but have done nothing phenomenal in the matter of scoring, and the battalion musketry average will not be materially improved by their scores.

* * * * * *

Lance-Corporal Rastall has been granted a proficiency certificate in signalling.

Major W. H. Dick-Cunyngham, V. C., passed for promotion to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel at an examination held at Lucknow on November 23rd and 24th.

* * * * * *

The battalion will regret very much to hear of the death of Mrs. Gordon, wife of Major Gordon, late Ninety-third Highlanders, which occurred on the 4th November at the age of 36, after a long and painful illness. Together with her husband Mrs. Gordon had the interest of the Ninety-third very thoroughly at heart, and her many acts of kindness to the non-commissioned officers and men will long be remembered by the regiment. Her funeral took place at Kensal Green on the 8th November. Colonel Trotter, Captain Urmston and Dr. Chappell were among the mourners.

* * * * * *

A curious scroll was produced by Color-Sergeant Hutton, late Ninety-third, at the dinner of the Association in Glasgow on 26th October. It contained the autograph signatures of nearly all the general and principal officers serving in the Crimea during the time the regiment was there. Sergeant Hutton is anxious to obtain the signatures of some of the later Colonels of the regiment, and it is not improbable that this interesting document may eventually become an heirloom of the Ninety-third.

* * * * * *

The Sergeants' Mess had its hands full during the early part of the Durbar, as the Sergeants of each of the incoming regiments, with the unfortunate exception of the 18th Hussars—the distance of the Cavalry camp at Bikhewal proving too much for hospitality—were entertained to breakfast in their own camps on their several arrivals by their brother Sergeants of the Ninety-third.

To Color-Sergeant Swan and Sergeants Chaplin, Maxwell, Meston and Gunn, who were answerable for the arrangements and officiated

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as hosts on all possible occasions, the greatest credit is due.

* * * * * *

The Regimental Theatre has been occupied pretty frequently lately, Dr. Harley performing for two nights, the London Lyric Company paying it a visit and the Maven Folly Company occupying it during the whole of the Durbar. With the exception of the London Lyric no very good houses were obtained by any of the companies, Dr. Harley's show not seeming to take on, whilst the Durbar week found the majority of the troops too busily employed.

* * * * * *

The band has suffered an irreparable loss in the retirement of the bandmaster, Mr. James Grant, after nearly 30 years' service, 10 years of which have been spent as head of the musicians in this battalion. Mr. Grant took over the appointment of bandmaster in the Isle of Wight, and during his stay with us the band has been brought to a state of great efficiency; in fact it is not at all out of place to say that there are few better bands in the British Army, and this result has been mainly brought about by his painstaking and judicious training. Mr. Grant formerly served in the Ninety-second Highlanders and with them saw service in Afghanistan, participating in Lord Roberts' march from Kabul to Kandahar, for which he has the Medal and Star; he was also with the Gordons in South Africa and narrowly escaped being present at the fatal affair of Majuba Hill. The good wishes of all ranks follow him on his return to the old country.

* * * * * *

Another member of our band has also left. Corporal Chittenden having been transferred to the Manchester Regiment to take up the appointment of Band-Sergeant in that Corps. Sergeant Chittenden is to be congratulated upon his promotion and may good luck follow him in his new regiment.

93rd Sutherland Highlanders' Association.

—o—

GLASGOW, 26th October, 1894.

SIR,

The Committee submit an abstract of the Association Accounts, &c., for the year ending 31st December 1893. It was decided at a Committee Meeting that it would be best to have the abstract ready for distribution at the Annual Re-Union, so that every Member would be certain to get a copy.

We, on behalf of the Association, take this opportunity of tendering our sincere thanks to all who have in any way assisted in carrying out the aims and objects of the Association. Our particular thanks are therefore tendered to the civilian friends who have done so much to assist us in carrying out the duties of the Association by enabling us to find employment for Members and others who have been recommended. Without their aid it would have been impossible for the Committee to have found employment for so many of the Members and others.

To the Members of the Press we also tender our sincere thanks, as they have done everything in their power to forward the interests of the various Associations—in particular, "Forage Cap," of the *Evening News*, and the others in their Military Notes.

We would again remind our comrades and civilian friends that the best way to render help to a man worthy of assistance is to place him in a position to aid himself, *viz.*, by securing employment for him. This can only be done by the Committee being kept well posted up as to all situations which become vacant. Members and others will therefore greatly assist by attending to the above and use any influence they may have in obtaining the same for any one who may be recommended.

The Committee would again remind the Members and others who intend being present at future Annual Gatherings, of the necessity of acquainting them at least one week previous to date of Dinner (with number of guests) to enable them to make proper arrangements in Catering, &c. In previous years this important item has been neglected, and the Committee have had to resort to guess work, this causing in a number of cases a deal of unnecessary expenditure.

We also desire that this Association and Re-Union may be made known to all who have ever served in the old 93rd Sutherland Highlanders.

Wishing all success to Associations with the same objects in view.

We beg to remain, SIR,

Your obedient Servants,

THE COMMITTEE.

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Names of Committees, 1893-94.

FINANCE.

JAMES SMITH, 129 Stirling Road ... ... *President.*
DAVID SIMPSON, 262 Cumberland Street ... *Treasurer.*
GEORGE MARTIN, 61 John Knox Street ... *Secretary.*

SUB-COMMITTEE.

Pipe-Sergeant JOHN M'KAY, The Barracks, Paisley.
WILLIAM M'LEAY, 18 Cavendish Street, S.S.
Sergeant-Major WILLIAM RUSSELL, 151 Sword Street.
JOHN MOTION (late Sergt.-Major), Church Park Villa Row, *Hon. President.*

Statement of Income and Expenditure during 1893.

Income.	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward	13	4	0
Subscriptions and Donations...	19	19	0
Interest on Bank Account	0	4	9
Total ...	£33	7	9

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.			
Annual Dinner,—Mr. Brownlie ...	13	11	6			
„ Mr. J. Ritchie ...	4	14	0			
„ Steel & Coulson	1	16	0			
„ J. Dove & Sons	0	10	5			
„ Music for Dance	1	1	0			
„ Hire of Delf ...	0	4	6			
„ „ Hall ...	4	3	6			
„ Advertisement	0	16	1			
„ D. J. Clark, Printer	1	13	6			
Postage, Telegrams, &c. ...	1	13	9½			
Cash in hand	1	13	8½	£1	13	8½
„ Bank	1	9	9	1	9	9
Total ...	£33	7	9	3	3	5½

Numbers who have obtained employment.

From Formation till	93rd	Other Regiments.	Temporary.	Total.
1893.	133	57	32	222
1894.	7	5	13	25
Totals ...	140	62	45	247

JAMES SMITH,
DAVID SIMPSON,
GEORGE MARTIN, } *Finance Committee.*

N.B.—The extra expenditure of the last two years has been caused by the Assembly after Dinner.

———— :o: ————

The Highland Officer.

—o—

The following appeared amongst numerous other REGIMENTAL TYPES in *Vanity Fair* of 1876 and is we think worth reproducing: —

Formerly there were many Highland regiments, now, though there are several so styled, only five can properly claim the distinction—that is to say, those who wear the full traditional costume of the Highlander. The Highland soldier pure is one who, when in the fullest dress, is the least clothed— *i.e.*, who habitually dispenses with trousers. Even, however in the 42nd, 78th, 79th, 92nd and 93rd Highlanders, the number of genuine Highlanders is daily decreasing, and Lowland Scotchmen are heartily welcomed. There is an idea abroad that these corps contain a large number of Tipperary and Highgate Highlanders. That is a mistake, as anyone may ascertain for himself if he takes the trouble to listen to the conversation of the men. There are, it is true, many of the latter who are Englishmen and Irishmen by name, but it will be found that in most cases they have been born and bred either in Scotland or in the North of Ireland, where the population is Scotch in origin. The same cannot be said of the majority of the officers. A glance at the "Army List" will show that a large proportion of these have English or Hibernian names. The fact is that Highland regiments are considered crack corps as compared with the Line at large, and the dress is a great attraction. Many men, therefore, whose ancestors were always very decently clad, and who considered cattle-lifting and large-scale larceny as anything but gentlemanlike occupations, don the kilt. These are generally far more Highland than the Highlanders. They are very proud of their legs; they, whenever they can, wear mufti kilts: religiously devour haggis every Sabbath; adore the bagpipes; and continually interlard their conversation with Scotch expressions. If you dine at a Highland regiment's mess, and want to find out who are not Highlanders, look for those who are most devout in tossing off the quaigh of whiskey when it is brought round, who make a point when there are guests of taking a pinch of snuff from the mull, who always suggest that a toast shall be drunk with Highland honours, who drum with their fingers on the table, and vociferate "Heugh!" when the pipes are played. These you may be sure are Englishmen or Irishmen. If you have still any doubt, ask them if there are many officers and men in the regiment who are not Highlanders, or inquire as to the names of the different parts of their dress. Their zeal in denying an infusion of foreign blood in the one case, and their elaborate descriptions in the other, will be quite sufficient to convince you of their origin.

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As a matter of fact, there is a good deal of humbug about Highland regiments. The *patois* which prevails in them is no more Highland than Yorkshire, but is merely a dialect of the old Anglo-Saxon tongue. As to the dress, it is Highland, inasmuch as it is breech-less; but take it for all in all it is but a fancy dress. The feather bonnet is very effective when worn by a body of men; but when seen on an individual it presents the appearance of one of the plumes of a hearse out for a holiday. We can assure our Sassenach readers that no follower of Rob Roy, not one of the gallant clansmen who fought at Culloden, ever wore such a preposterous head-covering. It is an exceedingly uncomfortable head-dress too, and nothing more pitiable or more ridiculous can be conceived than the sight of a field-officer of a Highland regiment in a gale of wind with one hand exclusively devoted to the task of keep his feather bonnet on his head.

To the public a Highland officer is a Highland officer; but there is a great difference between the five regiments. All are highly distinguished corps; all think very highly of themselves; in all, commissions are eagerly sought after. There are, however, shades in their characters clearly discernible to the initiated. The 42nd or Black Watch is the oldest corps. They have fought and bled on many a glorious field, and have ever been remarked for a stern discipline. In the eyes of the public they are a typical Highland corps. Well, too, do they keep up their historical reputation. There are, however, many English and several Irish names in the list of their officers, and they are to be admired rather in the field and on parade than in the mess-room. In the old Flanders campaigns it is said that officers wiled away their intervals of leisure with cards and conviviality. The Black Watch are a very conservative corps, and by no means disposed lightly to discard the social habits of their predecessors. If we may believe ancient chroniclers, Highlanders of old were rather given to feuds amongst themselves and scarcely qualified to play the part of members of a band of brothers. Clanship has almost disappeared, but cliquism sometimes takes its place, and the hot blood of the "forty twa's" is with difficulty kept in order by the restraints of discipline. Admired the Black Watch is by the whole Army, especially since its glorious feats of arms at the passage of the Pah—we are not quite clear about the names—the battle of Anarmful, and the capture of Lawkamussy; but it is certainly not looked on with cordiality by the other Highland regiments. If you ask the reason, ten to one the reply will be, "Oh! it's that d——d red 'hackle,'" meaning the red feather which indicates that the wearer belongs to a Royal regiment. The mere fact of their having a red feather in their bonnet would not excite dislike; this is due to the swagger produced by the sanguinary symbol above mentioned. It may be that the alleged swagger only exists in the jaundiced imagination of envious brother *sans culottes*. It is nevertheless a fact that, for some reason or another, the 42nd are as a body, unpopular with the other four Highland regiments.

The 79th Highlanders are less ancient than the 42nd, but have of late years seen quite as much service. They, also, are a Royal regiment and wear the red hackle,* yet in spite of these distinctions are favourites, not only in the Army at large, but with the other Highland regiments. The officers are rather more Scotch than those of the Black Watch. It has always been an efficient regiment, but its chief characteristic is that from a social point of view it is one of the most pleasant corps in the Army. For many years it was commanded by Colonel Maule, the brother of the late Lord Dalhousie, better known as Lord Panmure. Under him a most gentlemanlike tone and the greatest hospitality prevailed. The officers were the life and soul of every garrison in which they were quartered. They were well able to indulge in their hospitality and to keep up what is called a good style, for Colonel Maule let it be understood that he wanted no officer in the Cameron Highlanders who had not an allowance of at least £300 a year. They are not so rich now, but their social reputation and regimental traditions still survive, and a more gentlemanlike, hospitable, popular body of officers are not to be found in the service. With the officers of other Highland regiments—the 42nd perhaps excluded—they live on terms of the greatest cordiality, especially with the officers of the 93rd. Between the 79th and 93rd a warm intimacy, the result of much active service in the same brigade, has sprung up, and the Cameron and Sutherland Highlanders are perpetual honorary members of each other's mess.

* This is a mistake, the 79th wear a white hackle.—Ed.

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The 93rd is a regiment with rather marked characteristics. It has always gained distinction in war, and has, as regards the men, been more thoroughly Scotch than any of the other Highland regiments. In peace it has borne a good character, and its *esprit de corps* is strong. Most of the officers in it are Scotch. They are for the most part of good birth, though not "smart" in the London sense, and as a rule are poor. It is perhaps owing to the smallness of their incomes that, the 79th and 78th excepted, they are not very intimate with other corps, that they do not cultivate society very assiduously, or indulge in sport to any great extent. In fact, it is rather a solid, old-fashioned regiment, though when occasion demands it, there is no lack of hospitality.

The 78th is, as regards officers, as Scotch as the 93rd, indeed rather more so. There is, however, a large infusion of English and Irish. It has served with distinction in all parts of the world, but not so conspicuously of late years as the 93rd. The officers are a genial, hospitable set, fond of mixing with the world, but not much addicted to London society. They are of good birth, but cannot claim to be more than gentlemen, for few of them ever rejoice in handles to their names.

The 92nd completes the list of kilt regiments. They have a fair sprinkling of Scotch officers, and among the men the proportion of English and Irish is not great. Its reputation as a fighting regiment is good, but has not of late years been severely tested, yet it is always in a high state of efficiency. The officers are almost without exception men of the world, catholic in their tastes, and fond both of field sports and of society. Their tone is particularly good, their mess is remarkable for its excellence and hospitality, and there is no regiment in the service which is more comfortable, or in which there reigns a stronger or more genuine *esprit de corps*. The officers are genial, well-bred, and comfortably off, and a black sheep is soon forced to take himself off. Such being the case, it is no wonder that, collectively and individually, the gay Gordons are, wherever they go, highly popular both with soldiers and with civilians.

The Durbar.

—o—

THE Durbar is over and no one I suppose is sorry except the gharry-wallahs and native tradesmen, who must have made a lot of money out of the proceedings of the past fortnight, and who would probably like to have something of the sort at least once a quarter. It must be many years since there was such a large number of troops in Lahore, and a Highland Brigade has not been seen in India it is said since the mutiny. Of the three regiments composing it all were present at Lucknow, though at that time the 75th was not a kilted corps. Proceedings commenced with the public arrival of the Commander-in-Chief on Saturday, November 24th. His Excellency arrived at Mian Mir West Station about 10 a.m. and was received by the General Officers Commanding, Commanding Officers, and Heads of Departments. The Battalion furnished a guard-of-honour of 100 men under Captain McKerrell, with Lieutenant Marshall and 2nd Lieutenant McLean, the last named carrying the Regimental color. After inspecting the Guard, Sir George White drove off to his camp on the maidan opposite the lines of the 20th Punjab Infantry.

On Monday the division paraded for the public arrival of H. E. the Viceroy and the roads throughout the route traversed by His Excellency's procession from the Lahore Railway Station through the city to the camp were lined on both sides by troops, the grounds allotted to us being from the entrance of the camp to the Punjab Chief's College continued towards Lahore by the Gordon Highlanders, the roadway within the camp being lined by the Infantry Regiments on escort, the 78th Highlanders and the 28th Punjab Infantry, the former being nearest the Viceroy's tent. His Excellency was expected to arrive in camp at 10-30, and it was only a few minutes after that hour when his escort was seen coming down the road. The escort consisted of the Chestnut Troop, R. H. A., the 11th Hussars and the 18th Bengal Lancers, who looked very smart in their scarlet uniform.

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In His Excellency's procession were the Countess of Elgin, Lord Harris, Governor of Bombay, the Commander-in-Chief and a large staff. The Battalion returned to barracks about 12 o'clock.

In the evening the Viceroy held a levée which was very largely attended, but with the large tents used there was very little crowding and it took a very short time to get through.

On Tuesday morning the division paraded for a rehearsal of the big parade fixed for Thursday, Lord Frankfort being in command. The Royal Horse Artillery Brigade consisting of "A" and "Q" batteries on the right under Lieutenant-Colonel Eden, R. H. A., a son of the late Premier of Scotland. Next came the Cavalry Division under Major-General Grant, C.B., Inspector-General of Cavalry in India, and a son of Field Marshal Sir Patrick Grant. The troops composing the division were,—

1st Brigade—Lieutenant-Colonel Swaine, 11th Hussars, Commanding. Troops 11th and 18th Hussars.

2nd Brigade—Lieutenant-Colonel Neville, 14th Bengal Lancers, Commanding. Troops 9th and 15th Bengal Lancers.

3rd Brigade—Lieutenant-Colonel Richardson, C.I.E., 18th Bengal Lancers, Commanding. Troops 18th and 19th Bengal Lancers.

4th Brigade—Major Drummond, 11th Bengal Lancers, Commanding. Troops Imperial Service Cavalry.

Next to the Cavalry came the British Division under Colonel Biscoe in two Brigades.—the English Brigade under Lieutenant-Colonel Hasting of the Buffs, and composed of the Buffs, Norfolk Regiment, and Somerset Light Infantry, and the Highland Brigade under Lieutenant-Colonel Gildea, Gordon Highlanders, composed of the 78th, Gordon Highlanders, and ourselves. On our left was the Indian Division under Colonel Waterfield in two Brigades,—1st Punjab Brigade under Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, 34th Pioneers, composed of 28th Punjab Infantry, 34th Pioneers and 36th Sikhs; 2nd Gurkha Brigade under Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Charles Leslie, 4th Gurkhas, composed of the 2nd Battalion, 1st, and 1st and 2nd Battalions, 4th Gurkhas. To the left of the Gurkhas were the Imperial Service Infantry Division under Major Hogge, C.I.E., 14th Sikhs, in two Brigades,—1st Brigade under Captain Harris, 11th Bengal Infantry, composed of 1st and 2nd Patiala Infantry and the Bahawalpur and Faridkote Infantry; 2nd Brigade under Captain Cox, 21st Madras Infantry, composed of the Jind, Nabha and Kapurthala Infantry, on the left of the line were the Field Artillery Batteries Nos. 24, 46, 50, 68 and 71.

Having assembled the Divisional Commanders and Brigadiers, Lord Frankfort briefly explained what was to be done and then took post opposite the flagstaff and ordered a general salute. After shouldering, a royal salute was given and the Infantry then stood easy, while the Cavalry and Artillery formed up on the saluting base and marched past at the walk. The Infantry then marched past the Battalions in column of double companies and returned by brigades in mass of quarter columns, wheeled to the right after passing the flagstaff and reformed on their original alignment. Arms were then piled and we fell out, while the Cavalry went past again at the trot and returned at the gallop, the different Cavalry regiments performing the lance or sword exercise as they passed. Line was then re-formed and the division advanced in review order and gave a royal salute, after which we marched home and were glad to be dismissed after having been on parade upwards of six hours. The dust was very trying, particularly on the ground where we formed into mass after marching past the first time.

On Wednesday, 28th November, the Highland Brigade sports were held on the maidan in front of our guardroom. Unfortunately the threatening appearance of the weather kept away many who had intended to be present, but very little rain fell and the programme was completed, except the dancing competitions and the tossing the caber, without a hitch. These competitions were decided on the following Monday in the camp of the Gordon Highlanders. His Excellency the Viceroy was present for a short time, but Lady Elgin was unfortunately indisposed and unable to attend. In the evening,

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there was a torchlight tattoo in the Commander-in-Chief's camp where the Viceroy and Lady Elgin dined.

Thursday, 29th, was a long day and a dusty one. The little rain which had fallen the previous afternoon had had no effect on the ground which had already been cut up a good deal by the rehearsal of the parade on Tuesday. The Battalion paraded at 8-30 a.m. and was dismissed about 3 p.m. The parade was the same as that on Tuesday exactly, except that there was a large number of spectators and that His Excellency drove down the line, Sir George White riding beside the carriage and pointing out the different regiments as they were passed. On coming to our Brigade, the Commander-in-Chief said: "This is the Seaforth Highlanders, the old 78th, next is the 93rd, The 'Thin Red Line of Balaclava,' the next is the 'Gordon Highlanders.'"

In the evening a ball was given by the residents of the Punjab in the Montgomery Hall which was largely attended.

On the morning of the 30th the Viceroy held the Durbar which was the object of his stay here. From what we have heard it must have been a very fine sight as the ruling princes arrived in gorgeous carriages and wearing their finest jewels. The Raja of Kapurthala wore a pearl necklace which formerly belonged to the Empress of the French, and Patiala had some magnificent diamonds and emeralds. After all had arrived the Viceroy made his entrance and delivered a long speech which was afterwards read in Urdu for the benefit of those who did not understand English. According to some critics the translation was not altogether a success, and a prince with several thousand pounds work of jewels on his person must have felt somewhat anxious when His Excellency was made to declare that "he was no foe to highway robbery."

In the evening the Officers of the Highland Brigade held the St. Andrews' dinner at which the Viceroy, Lord Harris, the Lieutenant-Governor, the Commander-in-Chief and their Staffs were present, also Generals Sir William Ellis, K.C.B., Mansfield Clarke, Viscount Frankfort, Kinloch Thomason, Lieutenant-Colonel Massy, late 92nd, Commissioner at Jullundur, and many others. Ninety-four sat down to dinner in the Montgomery Hall at a long table running nearly the whole length of the room decorated with flowers and with a magnificent display of plate, the property of the three regiments. An excellent dinner was provided by Mr. Peliti of Simla, after which Captain Mackenzie, Ninety-third, who presided, proposed the "Queen" and then the "pious memory of St. Andrew." Lieutenant-Colonel Gildea proposed the health of the Viceroy who replied in a most effective manner, and Lieutenant-Colonel Grant, Seventy-eighth, proposed the health of H. E. the Commander-in-Chief, who made a particularly happy speech in reply. The massed bands of the Brigade played during dinner, and after dinner the pipers of the three regiments came in and each played a march, strathspey and reel, and the Pipe-Major of the Gordon Highlanders played a pibroch. After H. E. the Viceroy had left, a reel was danced and Major-General Thomason played a march on the pipes which was loudly applauded.

On the afternoon of the 1st December the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab gave a garden party at Shalimar to which a large number of people were invited to meet the Viceroy. The gardens were not looking at their best as it is rather too early for them yet, but it was a very pretty sight with the fountains all playing. As soon as it was dusk there was a display of fireworks, of which the writer could see nothing, the refreshment tent being amongst the trees.

At 9-30 P.M., Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Elgin were 'at Home' in their camp and a most brilliant assemblage responded to their invitation. All sorts of uniforms were to be seen, Civil and Military, and the Native chiefs in gorgeous array added no little to the effect.

This was the last entertainment of the week and H. E. the Viceroy left on Sunday evening privately.

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Regimental Gazette.

Promotions.—No. 1980 Lance-Sergeant J. Mackie, "E" Company, to be Sergeant; No. 2930 Corporal J. Dawson, "E" Company, to be paid Lance-Sergeant; No. 3635 Lance-Corporal H. Templeman, "H" Company, and No. 3551 Lance-Corporal H. Kerr, "B" Company, to be Corporals; No. 3628 Lance-Corporal F. Poole and No. 3389 Lance-Corporal T. Potter, "D" Company, to be paid Lance-Corporals; No 2479 Private D. Gordon, "D" Company, and No. 3257 Private W. Pennell, "A" Company, to be Lance-Corporals.

Appointments.—No. 1908 Sergeant W. McCulloch to be Garrison Librarian; No. 3037 Corporal G. Arnott, "A" Company, to be Drill-Corporal; No. 2919 Private J. Jamieson, "D" Company, to be Drummer.

Employment.—No. 2657 Private P. Gilbraith, "A" Company, to be employed on the Regimental Police; No. 3362 Private J. Farrell, "C" Company, to be Orderly to the R. C. Chaplain; No. 3568 Private C. Alker, "C" Company, to be employed on the Rest Camp Police; No. 4153 Private T. Sutton and No. 3567 Private W. Hatt to be Hospital Orderlies; No. 3648 Private J. Lachford, "G" Company, to be Pioneer; No. 3311 Private H. Hamblion, "F" Company, to be employed in Sergeants' Mess; No. 3202 Lance-Corporal McDougal, "H" Company, and No. 3758 Private W. Brindley, "B" Company, to be employed in the Deputy Assistant Adjutant General's Office; No. 2881 Private T. Stevenson to be Presbyterian Orderly.

Extensions.—No. 2425 Private A. McInnes, "B" Company, and No. 2219 Drummer J. Jamieson, "D" Company, have been permitted to extend their service to 12 years with the colors.

Transfer.—Sergeant Mackie transferred from "E" to "G" Company: Corporal Templeman transferred from "H" to "E" Company; Corporal Kerr transferred from "B" to "F" Company; No. 3526 Corporal H. Stimson transferred from "D" to "G" Company. No. 2296 Private D. Baxter and No. 4366 Private A. Grahame transferred from "C" to "E" Company; Gunner T. H. Beasley transferred from "K" Battery, R. H. A. and posted to "G" Company.

Instructor.—No. 2872 Private McLachlan, "C" Company, to be Assistant Instructor in Signalling to Native classes.

Paid Establishment.—No. 3554 Lance-Corporal J. Williamson, "C" Company; No. 3775 Lance-Corporal G. Forbes, "B" Company; No. 2992 Lance-Corporal R. McBean, "D" Company; No. 2792 Lance-Corporal R. Crichton, "B" Company; No. 869 Lance-Corporal J. Bell, "A" Company; No. 3220 Lance-Corporal T. Peters. "H" Company; No. 3531 Lance-Corporal F. Marks, "H" Company; No. 3218 Lance-Corporal W. Harper, "G" Company; No. 3880 Lance-Corporal J. Douglas, "G" Company; No. 3185 Lance-Corporal W. Adams, "E" Company; No. 3346 Lance-Corporal J. Stewart, "C" Company; No. 3088 Lance-Corporal A. Kettles, "C" Company; No. 3247 Lance-Corporal J. McKimm, "B" Company; No. 2752 Lance-Corporal W. Buchanan, "D" Company; No. 4063 Lance-Corporal H. Langdon, "E" Company; No. 3138 Lance-Corporal W. Fawcett, "E" Company; No. 3202 Lance-Corporal D. McDougal, "H" Company; No. 3650 Lance-Corporal J. Haskell, "H" Company; No. 3147 Lance-Corporal G. Franks, "G" Company; No. 3411 Lance-Corporal T. Smith, "D" Company, and No. 3596 Lance-Corporal A. Rankin, "D" Company, taken on the paid establishment of their rank.

Certificates of Education.—No. 3635 Corporal H. Templeman, "E" Company, and No. 3346 Lance-Corporal J. Stewart, "C" Company, granted 2nd Class Certificates of Education.

Professional Examinations.—The following have passed for promotion to rank of Sergeant: - No. 3261 Corporal E. Rose, "H" Company; No. 2931

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Corporal W. McNab, "E" Company; No. 1832 Corporal W. Melville, "C" Company; No. 3610 Corporal J. Stobbie, "G" Company; No, 3848 Corporal J. McPherson, "A" Company; No. 2794 Corporal G. Inglis, "H" Company; No. 3581 Corporal F. Beavis, "G" Company, and No. 3006 Corporal J. Ewan, "F" Company.

Passed for the rank of Corporal.—No. 3551 Lance-Corporal H. Kerr, "B" Company; No. 3277 Lance-Corporal F. Franklin and No. 3662 Lance-Corporal J. Harvey, "G" Company; No. 3230 Lance-Corporal E. Chapman "A" Company; No. 3880 Lance-Corporal J. Douglas, "G" Company, No. 4209 Lance-Corporal A. Campbell, "A Company; No. 4269 Lance-Corporal F. Fressanges and No. 3686 Lance-Corporal T. Starling, "E" Company.

G. C. Pay.—No. 4945 Lance-Corporal R. Wright, "C" Company, No. 3016 Piper R. Anderson, "A" Company, No. 3010 Private W. Inglis, "C" Company, granted 2*d.*; No. 2416 Private J. Sanderson, "A" Company, No. 3295 Private A. Coutts and No. 1660 Private J. McMillan, "B" Company, No. 2897 Private J. Bird, No. 3987 Private J. Currie and No. 4124 Private J. McDonald, "C" Company, No. 3595 Private J. Benson, No. 3457 Private A. McLean and No. 3605 Private G. McKenzie, "E" Company, No. 4068 Private J. Hall and No. 2833 Private J. Scott, "F" Company.

Mounted Infantry Certificates.—No. 3318 Corporal T. Hynch, No. 3581 Corporal F. Beavis, No. 4119 Private C. Martin, No. 4232 Private T. Doyle, No. 2960 Private J. Merriless, No. 4110 Private G. Wicks, No. 3861 Private J. Gilfeather, No. 4183 Private J. Burke, No. 4073 Private F. Gillon, No. 3400 Private J. Smith, No. 3203 Private W. Willis, No. 3661 Private Simmonds, No. 3390 Private C. Young, No. 3496 Private F. Sinclair, No. 2752 Private D. McPherson, No. 3827 Private W. Smyth, No. 1623 Private J. McNulty, No. 3814 Private J. Bailey, No. 4070 Private F. Connelly, No. 3374 Private W. Leighton, No. 3852 Private G. Smith, No 1776 Private J. Marshall, No. 3073 Private A. Grozier, No. 2718 Private H. Allen, No. 3655 Private J. Petrie, No. 3040 Private W. Wallace, No. 4000 Private E. McConnell, No. 2833 Private G. Graham, No. 3858 Private A. Copeland, No. 3773 Private M. Kelly, No. 4170 Private R. Youles, No. 2849 Private J. Cossar, No. 3831 Private A. Buckland, No. 4168 Private A. Moultrie, No. 3326 Private H. Beattie, No. 2848 Private J. Stewart.

Time Expired.—The following have embarked at Bombay for transfer to the 1st Class Army Reserve:—No. 2385 Corporal A. Eddington, No. 2405 Private W. Fiddes, No. 2393 Private J. Good, No. 2403 Private P. Higgins, No. 2381 Private R. Marr, No. 2388 Private D. Morrison, No. 2395 Private A. Yule, No. 4524 Private A. Anderson, No. 2392 Private W. Frame, No. 2376 Private G. Gordon, No. 2402 Private J. Hutchinson, No. 2412 Private J. McIntyre, No. 2111 Private R. Robertson.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

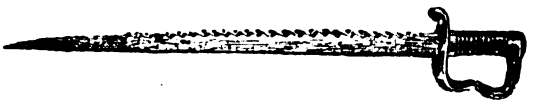
Casual Party.

			£	*s.*	*d.*
No. 2610	Private B. Scullion,	"E" Coy.	0	13	0
„ 3104	„ A. Grosvenor,	"C" „	0	11	6
„ 4397	„ E. Cody,	"C" „	0	5	6
„ 2500	„ R. Anderson,	"G" „	0	16	0
„ 3147	„ G. Franks,	"G" „	0	10	1½

Extracts from London Gazette.—Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders): 2nd Lieutenant W. J. B. Tweedie to be Lieutenant.

Gentleman Cadet H. H. G. Hyslop from R. M. C. to be 2nd Lieutenant, *vice* M. Stevenson, deceased.

Seaforth Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs, the Duke of Albany's): Sergeant Ronald Robert Stewart from Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) to be 2nd Lieutenant.



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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

That Balaclava day was "off."

That its celebration is only postponed.

That it's as subject to fever as its cousin.

That the Durbar is over.

That the old brigade at Aldershot was well represented.

That it didn't run away with everything at the sports.

That it won all the flat races tho'.

And also the light hammer.

That it gives the "Gay Gs" their due.

That they have equalised.

That it was only their turn.

That a lot of good men are going away by the "boat."

That it wishes them good luck in the old country.

That it will soon be T. E. itself.

That it hopes the delicate constitutions of some of the invalids wont be too severely tried by the climate at home.

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First Battalion Notes.

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THE non-commissioned officers and men for the November draft proceeded on furlough, returning on the 5th November. The weekly dances in the drill hall are attracting men from all corps, and before long will become one of the most popular entertainments in camp. All this we learn from the *Aldershot News* and also the following respecting our home battalion's football team:

Football has always been a prominent sport in both battalions of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and many will remember the powerful team of the 93rd, which did honour to the regiment whilst the 91st were yet abroad. The 91st had a team of some strength, which was considerably weakened by transfers to the 2nd Battalion before coming home. The team is just regaining its power, and the present organization is already acquitting itself with credit. It was first started in the season 1882-83, when the 91st were quartered at Natal. They played well in South Africa, beating all before them, and were twice in the final for the South African Cup. In those halcyon days, the old plan of the field was in vogue, and many of the present generation are still surprised to learn that good clubs played six forwards and two half backs. When the 91st were removed to Ceylon in 1885-86, the area of competition was reduced to a few cubs, which were all beaten In Hong Kong, in 1889, the team commenced a victorious career, and, during its three years' stay, never lost a match. The Hong Kong Football Club tried to lower the team's colours on the day before sailing home, but met with a defeat by five to nil, and on the last day of the battalion's stay, the relieving Shropshire Regiment arrived with a strong team, and a game was arranged which resulted in a hard struggle and victory for the Highlanders by one to nil. On the way home 400 time-unexpired men were landed at Kurrachee for service with the 93rd, and it was with rueful countenance that the club managers parted with the flower of the team, so that on landing in England, in March 1892, the committee had to reorganize and train a fresh team, an arrangement which the removal to Edinburgh Castle did not at all assist, owing to the difficulty of getting practice. Two men of the 93rd's successful Army Cup team, Young, the left wing forward, and Turner, half-back, who had been left behind by the 93rd for service with the 1st Battalion, materially strengthened the committee's hand. The team was entered for the East of Scotland Shield, but succumbed in the first round. The Royal Scots Fusiliers also beat them in the Army Cup round, 1892-93. As the season progressed the team improved, thanks to St. Bernard's Club, which lent them the Logic Green enclosure twice a week for practice, until the Saints were admitted to the Scottish League, when the privilege of course was withdrawn. Out of twenty-four matches played, thirteen were won, and two drawn, Portobello, Hawick, Penecuick, Haddington Wanderers, and K.O.S.B. (on tour) being amongst the defeated. The season 1893-94 showed still a further improvement, thirty matches being played, fifteen won, twelve lost and three drawn. The team defeated amongst others, the Edinburgh Adventurers, by four to nil, which, last season, beat the Black Watch in the Scottish Cup Competition, and ran into the third round. It will be remembered that Sergeant Inglis, the present "skipper," was selected to play for Edinburgh against Linlithgow. Since the battalion has been in Aldershot, the team has played 9 games, won 5, lost 3, and drawn 1, defeating the Fifth Fusiliers (6 to 0), 9th Lancers (twice, 3 to 1 each time), 2nd Leicestershire Regiment (9 to 0); and receiving reverses from Reading (2 to 1), 1st Wiltshire (2 to 1 : Army Cup Round), Highland Light

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Infantry (6 to 0: previous to playing Cup round); and the draw was one goal each with the 1st Lincolnshire.

Since these matches the 2nd Cheshire Regiment has been met and defeated, in the 1st round for the Aldershot News Cup, by 5 goals to nil, and our first battalion has therefore made an excellent bid for this trophy.

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At the Fort.

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THE Sergeants of "D" Company together with those of the staff have formed a Lawn-Tennis Club here, and as there are several lady members it promises to be a great success.

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Cricket is also indulged in, a match between the non-commissioned officers and privates, which took place on the 8th November, resulting in a win for the former by 11 runs. "D" Company is going in very freely for sport and should give an excellent account of themselves in the cricket clock competition when they rejoin headquarters.

* * * * * *

By kind permission of the Officer Commanding, a concert under the auspices of the Independent Order of Rechabites was given in the Shish-Mahal Palace, and although the executive were disappointed in the non-appearance of some members, the concert proved very successful, special mention being made of the "Questions and Answers" by Sergeant Stebbins, Border Regiment, and Private Cassells.

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The Glasgow Balaclava Dinner.

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THE ninth annual dinner of the Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders Association at the Trades Hall, Glasgow, was numerously attended both by present and late officers and men of the battalion. Among the former were Colonels Nightingale and Trotter, Majors MacDougall and Middleton, Captains Urmston and Wolrige Gordon, Mr. Campbell of Kilbery and Lieutenant Campbell; while Captain Wemyss, of the Gordon Highlanders, was present as a guest. After the usual loyal toasts, Colonel Nightingale remarked that it was now forty years ago since the Ninety-third made for themselves a name that had become famous in history. It remained for those of the present day to keep it up. He had since that time seen other deeds in the Crimea and Mutiny not far short of what they were commemorating to-night; still, self-praise was no glory and the less said about these things the better. He was sorry to see a diminution in the attendance of their dinner; ten years ago the members were greater, but whether this was due to engagements in this or another world he could not say. The institution was still a young one and they were only the pioneers of a bigger movement to promote and sustain which it would be necessary to put their hands in their pockets. The comradeship and fellow-feeling of the Ninety-third was proverbial, and though the short service system had injured it could not quench it.

The usual roll call of members was then made, the older soldiers receiving hearty cheers as in reply to their names they shouted out usually in vigorous Scotch their regimental numbers, company and date of joining, in compliance with a request made in a long and humorous speech by Color-Sergeant Simpson. Colonel Nightingale then called out the names of the officers present, who responded with the information as to company and date and place of joining.

The health of the guests was proposed and also that of Colonels Nightingale and Trotter; in replying to which the latter urged upon those who had the interest of the corps at heart the necessity of doing their best to secure a regular influx of good material in the way of recruits. This, he said, could be done with very little trouble to individual members of the association, either by giving good advice to their friends or, what was much better, the benefit of their own personal experiences, both in and out of the Army. Uncertainty of provision for the future was very properly the stumbling block to the enlistment of Highland-

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ers and Scotchmen, proverbially a long-headed lot, and on each occasion on which he, the speaker, had advocated enlistment, he had always held up this association as a living support to his arguments. The Ninety-third having been always a corps in which the officers were ready to co-operate with the men, either in amusements, military science, or in sport, had rendered more easy the starting, many years ago, of this association, and the harmonious working together of officers and men even after their active connection had ceased, was symbolic of a system which had borne fruit at Balaclava and in the Indian Mutiny. During his command they had had no such material with which to grapple, but of late in India they had the more insidious and ever-present enemy in the form of sickness and disease. Referring to enteric and to the still more fatal ravages—both moral and physical—of the diseases which in all other civilised countries were kept under control by the action of the executive, Colonel Trotter hoped that the publication of recent statistics might eventually rouse to action in the direction which he had indicated those military Members of Parliament who professed to be friends of the soldier.

He had detained them longer than he had intended, but the fact of having all these things connected with the regiment much at heart must be taken as his excuse; he thought that this anniversary had probably been kept in India the day before, and he was sure last night, both in the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes of the Ninety-third, kindly things were thought and words were said of those at home. He hoped the union of the past and present Ninety-third might long continue, and that this association would always exist to keep it up and to offer a helping hand to any old comrade who might find himself stranded and in difficulties. "Forage Cap," the reporter to the popular evening paper of Glasgow, was present at the dinner and amused the audience by an account of his meeting some friends in the street to whom, in reply to their persuasions to accompany them to another public dinner instead, replied, he was "eminently a Ninety-third man and could dine at no other banquet on Balaclava night."

After the speeches were over the officers on the platform mingled with their friends in the body of the hall and festivities were prolonged to a late hour.

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Editorial.

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OWING to the amount of work incurred with our Durbar Number we have been obliged to issue November and December as a double number, and consequently this will conclude Volume I of the *Thin Red Line*.

This will not, in any way, interfere with those who are yearly subscribers, as their subscriptions will not expire till a month later, and they will thus still receive twelve copies of the paper.

With the conclusion of this our first volume it is of course only the correct and proper thing that we should thank those who have supported us and contributed to our pages during our infantile existence, and doing an "about turn" make as graceful an exit as possible; pass away from the colors to the reserve as it were, always ready to be called up for future reference at any time, and to respond with alacrity to the call.

Our endeavours to faithfully chronicle the doings of the battalion during the last twelve months have, we think, been successful, and those at home have been able to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with our doings in this country. Of course the battalion being split up during the summer months caused considerable inconvenience, especially, as the salubrious climate of Dalhousie was necessary for all our editorial staff, and no regular contributors coming forward to record the doings of the wing on the plains. This trouble in the future we however hope to be able to overcome, and we

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appeal to all ranks to send us notes of interest and items that come personally to their notice, and which we, not being omnipresent, cannot be expected to know.

With this assistance which, we are sure, will be forthcoming, there is no doubt that Volume II of the *Thin Red Line* will be even more interesting than its predecessor, and we feel confident that all interested in the welfare of the old Ninety-third will do their utmost to help us in our humble endeavours to chronicle the doings of the corps in whose welfare we are all so deeply interested, and mark events, which though small in themselves, form regimental landmarks on the road of time.

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The Weaving of the Tartan.

—o—

I saw an old Dame weaving,
Weaving, weaving,
I saw an old Dame weaving,
A web of tartan fine.
"Sing high," she said, "sing low," she said,
"Wild torrents to the sea,
That saw my exiled bairnies torn,
In sorrow far frae me.
And warp well the long threads,
The bright threads, the strong threads;
Woof well the cross threads,
To make the colors shine."

She wove in red for every deed,
Of valour done for Scotia's need:
She wove in green, the laurel's sheen,
In memory of her glorious dead.
She spoke of Alma's steep incline,
The desert march, the "Thin Red Line,"
Of how it fired the blood and stirred the heart,
Where'er a bairn of her's took part.
"'Tis for the gallant lads," she said,
"Who wear the kilt and tartan plaid:
'Tis for the winsome lasses too,
Just like my dainty bells of blue.
So weave well the bright threads,
The red threads, the green threads,
Woof well the strong threads
That bind their hearts to mine."

I saw an old Dame sighing,
Sighing, sighing;
I saw an old Dame sighing,
Beside a lonely glen.
"Sing high," she said, "sing low," she said,
"Wild tempests to the sea,
The wailing of the pibroch's note,
That bade farewell to me.
And wae fa' the red deer,
The swift deer, the strong deer,
Wae fa' the cursed deer,
That take the place o' men."

Where'er a noble deed is wrought,
Where'er the brightest realms of thought,
The artists' skill, the martial thrill,
Be sure to Scotia's land is wed.
She casts the glamour of her name,
O'er Britain's throne and statesman's fame;
From distant lands, neath foreign names,
Some brilliant son his birthright claims.
For ah! she has reared them amid tempests,
And cradled them in snow,
To give the Scottish arms their strength,
Their heart sa kindly glow.
So weave well the bright threads,
The red threads, the green threads,
Woof well the strong threads
That bind their hearts to thine.

ALICE C. MACDONNELL,
of Keppoch,
in the *Celtic Monthly*.

LONDON,

BIRTHS.

McBean.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 5th October, the wife of Private Duncan McBean, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

Burtt.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 9th November, No. 4029 Private G. Burtt, "E" Company.

McKellar.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 14th November, No. 3600 Private G. McKellar, "H" Company, of jaundice.

Rae.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 16th November, Ada Mary, the daughter of Quarter-Master Sergeant Rae, aged 2½ years.

Groves.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 26th November, No. 3478 Private J. Groves, "E" Company.

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

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We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following :—

"The Soldier."
"The Vedette" (21st Hussars).
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.).
"The XVI" (16th Bedfordshire Regiment).
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Lancashire Lad" (47th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"H. L. I. Chronicle" (71st and 74th Highland Light Infantry).
"The Tiger and Sphinx" (75th Gordon Highlanders).
"Seventy-ninth News" (79th Cameron Highlanders).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The Globe and Laurel" (Royal Marines).
"The Eastern Guardsman" (Pennsylvanian National Guard, U. S. A).
"The American Guard," Gazette of the 71st Regiment N. Y. N. G.
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Stirling Observer."
"The Man of the World."

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COMPANY AGENTS.

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"A" Company—Private Watson.
"B" " —
"C" " — Lance-Corporal Stewart.
"D" " — " " Rankin.
"E" " — " " Prendergast.
"F" " — " " Brodie.
"G" " —Private Buckland.
"H" " —Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Private Miller.
Dalhousie Depôt—Lance-Corporal Forbes.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line*:—

Locally ...	Per month	...	2 annas.
	" quarter	...	6 "
	" half-year	...	12 "
	" year		Re. 1-8 "
With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union. N. C. O.'s and men of the regiment.			Rs. 2 per annum.
Officers and others not connected with the regiment.			Rs. 3 per annum.

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NOTA BENE.

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All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contribution should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 1.—Vol. II. MIAN MIR,—JANUARY 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas

SKIRLS

AFTER the Durbar the troops in Camp commenced to disperse to their several destinations, two battalions going to the front, the 36th Sikhs and 2-4 Gurkhas proceeding to join the expedition against the Waziris. These were the first to leave and they were loudly cheered by their British brethren in arms as they left Mian Mir West Railway Station en route for the front. The Seaforth Highlanders for Ferozepore were the first to march out, being followed by the Gordon Highlanders, Somerset Light Infantry and Norfolk Regiment; the remaining British Infantry Regiment, The Buffs, together with the 2-1 Gurkhas and 1-4 Gurkhas remaining for the district manœuvres.

All the cavalry and artillery who had been present at the Durbar Camp proceeded to the Camp of Exercise at Muridki where cavalry manœuvres on a large scale were carried out.

* * * * * *

The district manœuvres which concluded on the 15th December consisted of several brigade drills, a few field days, and a night march on the 14th ultimo, and finished up with field firing on the following day.

* * * * * *

The military training of "F" and "G" Companies, which had been interrupted owing to the Durbar, was recommenced on the 17th ultimo.

* * * * * *

The draft, which left Aldershot on the 23rd November, joined the battalion here on Christmas Day. Of the eighty-eight men composing it, the left half battalion gets the lion's share, so most of the young soldiers will get the opportunity of spending next summer on the hills, which they will no doubt duly appreciate. The draft have all been issued with the new pattern

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puggari which, although no doubt serviceable, has anything but a neat appearance at close quarters.

* * * * * *

Another draft leaves Aldershot on the 6th February and may be expected to arrive in the beginning of March. Captain Urmston comes out with it and will bring with him one Sergeant and sixty-two rank-and-file to swell the ranks of this battalion.

* * * * * *

"A," "C" and "D" Companies have completed the whole of their musketry field practices which could not be completed on the hills owing to the ranges at Dalhousie being unsuitable. A considerable number of the battalion no doubt are of the opinion that the Dalhousie ranges are also unsuitable for all the individual practices.

* * * * * *

Always interested in the sport of the battalion, more especially in the doings of our football team, Colonel Trotter has evidently watched their career at Simla this year with the greatest interest, and to give them encouragement in the future and bid them not be disheartened by their late reverse, sends them Christmas greeting by a very novel and quaintly designed card most appropriately inscribed as follows:—

TO C. S. SPEDDING AND 93RD TEAM.

XMAS 1894.

Don't be disheartened if you're DOWN,
But KICK OFF thoughts of pain
Or else those troubles that have passed
May come HALF BACK again.
For life's a SCRIMMAGE, though its woes
We DODGE upon the whole,
But CHARGE them boldly and you'll find
You'll soonest reach the GOAL.

* * * * * *

2nd Lieutenants McCandlish and Graham joined the battalion on Christmas Day, having brought out the last draft from home. 2nd Lieutenants H. G. Hyslop and W. J. Stewart have also joined from home.

The vicinity of the coffee shop is now enlivened every Tuesday evening by the band, which discourses sweet music there between the hours of eight and nine.

* * * * * *

The competitions for the Football and Cricket Clocks are again starting in the battalion, and both games are in full swing. There seems a very unnecessary haste this year in disposing of all the fixtures, and the reason for playing two football matches a night, crowding sixteen into a week and finishing the whole of the league fixtures in the short space of a fortnight and two days does not become apparent. Some teams will be severely handicapped by such useless haste unless companies intend "striking off" their players during the time the league is in progress and thus have them available for every day. It will be a matter of nearly three months before the battalion again has to separate for the summer months, and if the matches took place with more time intervening, more interest would be centred upon the form and doings of each team, and better football would no doubt be played, whilst those who are responsible for choosing the regimental team for the Simla and other tournaments would have a better opportunity of judging of the form of the various candidates for higher honors than wearing company colors.

* * * * * *

Hogmanay was celebrated in the usual way by the troops in barracks, the time-honored Scottish custom of "first footing" being indulged in by all those who were fortunate enough to possess anything in a liquid form. On the stroke of midnight the band and pipes assembled on the square and played the old year out and the new year in; the programme as usual consisting of "Happy we've been a' thegither" by the pipers, the band following with "A Guid New Year to ane an' a'" and finishing up with "Auld Lang Syne."

* * * * * *

Ill luck still seems to follow our signallers in their inspection which was originally to have

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taken place early in the month of December, but postponed from time to time until the festive seasons of Christmas and New Year came round, the 29th December and following days being finally settled upon for it. The inspection in the flag and lamp tests passed off quite successfully on the first day, the latter, which so pulled down the average of 1893, being all that could be desired and ten points better than last year's attempt. On the 30th, the Helio' test should have taken place, and had it been on that day there is no doubt excellent results would have been arrived at. Fate however, in the shape of dull weather, willed otherwise, and it was not until New Year's Day, after the effects of Hogmanay had worked their will, that old Sol deigned to favour Mian Mir with his presence and then the resul s were as was only to be expected.

* * * * * *

The result of the whole inspection is certainly better than last year, the points secured being 1·44 above those at Dagshai, but although this is gratifying, it is certainly below expectations and not what might have been had the test been at any other period of the year. However, very little is gained by soliloquizing on what might have been, and our signallers must endeavour to do better next inspection, a few more points would bring them nearly to the top of the tree, and with a little more care in the future there is no reason why they should not head the list of the signallers of the British Army in India.

The Lahore District Manœuvres.

—o—

THE district manœuvres were held in the fortnight after the Durbar. Owing to the cavalry and artillery being away at the camp at Muridki and two battalions of Gurkhas having gone on service to Waziristan, there were fewer troops than was anticipated, the regiments remaining being, besides ourselves, The Buffs, 2-1 Gurkhas, 1-4th Gurkhas, and the 34th Pioneers.

On the 3rd December the 2nd Brigade, composed of the 34th Pioneers and ourselves, under Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, took up a defensive position in front of the village of Shahjawal beyond the Artillery maidan, while the 1st Brigade, consisting of The Buffs and two battalions of Gurkhas, had to attack us. It was understood that this parade was held for the Commander-in-Chief to see the attack formations recommended by General Kinloch. Rain commenced soon after we went out, and we were sent home without a fight, marching part of the way through very heavy rain which, as we were in *khaki*, made us all very cold. The next few days were given up to brigade drill, the parades being held on the maidan in front of our guard-room.

On Saturday, 8th December, the 2nd Brigade paraded behind the butts on the rifle range and practised the attack, the enemy represented by seventy men of the 34th Pioneers being in position on the butts on the old artillery range. We were in the firing line and the 34th Pioneers in reserve.

Monday, 10th December, was wet, so there was no parade that day, but on the following morning the operations arranged for the 3rd December were successfully carried out.

Unfortunately Lord Frankfort was laid up with fever which prevented him from taking any further part in the manœuvres, the command devolving on Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, 34th Pioneers. Lieutenant-Colonel Sage, 1st Gurkhas, took command of the 2nd Brigade, and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Charles Leslie, 4th Gurkhas, commanded the 1st Brigade.

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The Pioneers were in the first line of the defence while we were in the village in reserve. The attacking force when once engaged pushed forward rapidly, but, we believe, in the opinion of the Chief Umpire, unsuccessfully.

On Wednesday, 12th December, we paraded at 8 and the 2nd Brigade assembled at Shalimar, from whence we marched in a serpentine formation in rear of the 1st Brigade for about three miles north-east to a village. Here we fell out and waited a long time while the flags to mark the position to be attacked were being placed. The 1st Brigade was in the firing line and 2nd Brigade in reserve; Lieutenant-Colonel Sage again commanding the 2nd Brigade. We were on the left flank which was supposed to be exposed and advanced in echelon from the right. On passing the village we were supposed to be attacked and formed to the left and fired volleys by half companies. This field day was the practice for the divisional field firing. We marched back to barracks and dismissed about 3-45 p.m. after an unexpectedly long day and were glad to get something to eat.

On Friday, 14th December, we had a night attack. The 34th Pioneers held the village of Shahjawal which was to be attacked by two brigades who were ordered to assemble at 7-30 p.m. at a small mosque close to the 26th boundary post. The 2nd Brigade, composed of ourselves and the 1st Gurkhas, under Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, assembled at 6-30 at the artillery butt, and met the 1st Brigade at the appointed rendezvous a few minutes after the appointed hour. The 1st Brigade were in the first line of attack, and the 2nd was never engaged as the cease fire sounded soon after the firing commenced. The Pioneers had made large bonfires along their front which lighted up the ground across which the enemy had to advance and also burnt blue lights. We did not hear what the Umpire's opinion of the attack was.

On Saturday, 15th December, the 2nd Brigade paraded at 8-45 for field firing in front of our guard-room, and we marched straight to the position from which the division had extended for the attack at the practice day on Wednesday. Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh commanded the 2nd Brigade. We advanced in the same formation as before, and on passing the village found a row of targets on our left front about 800 yards off. These only remained in sight for 1½ minutes when a second line of targets was raised about 500 yards off, these disappeared in their turn after a minute and a half, and a third row appeared about 350 yards away. After a few volleys at these last we ceased firing and reformed and waited for orders. In the meantime the first line had taken the position and driven to the enemy across the river. After the cease fire had sounded, the division was formed up in mass of brigades and we marched past and then went home by battalions independently, The Buffs making for Chubeel, where they camped that night on the way back to Jullundur. This concluded the district manœuvres for this cold weather.

———:o:———

The Draft.

—o—

THE draft, consisting of one Sergeant, one Corporal, and ninety-eight men, under 2nd Lieutenants Graham and McCandlish, left Aldershot on November 23rd, and embarked at Southampton the same afternoon on board the hired transport *Dilwara*, which sailed the following morning. The first night was rather rough, but afterwards, both in the Bay and in the Mediterranean, the weather was very fine, and the sea smooth. We stopped at Port Said for a few hours to coal. Though it was very hot in the Red Sea, and we had two rough days in the Indian Ocean, numerous concerts were held every evening in different parts of the ship. We reached Bombay on December 15th, and were able to disembark our full strength without any sick. The same evening we proceeded to Deolali, leaving Sergeant Irvine behind to go to Colaba, as his child had measles. We left Deolali on the 18th, and after stopping at Khandwa, Hoshangabad, Jhansi, Aligarh, and Umballa, reached Mian Mir on Christmas morning.

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Not what was meant.

—o—

A Budget of Blunders.

MOST people perhaps have at some period or other of their every day life been told to "go to Putney," with the gratuitous advice that the journey should be taken on the back of a pig. A more curious mode of locomotion, however, is that stated on the passes given to men of a certain regiment of Foot Guards. The men must wear their bear skin caps when walking out on Sundays, unless they are excused by a pass to visit some part of the suburbs at a distance from town. The passes are worded thus: "Private T. Atkins has permission to be absent from his quarters, &c., &c., for the purpose of going to Putney in a forage cap."

The consternation depicted on the countenance of a gallant officer may be easily imagined when he read in his military order book the following entry made by a young corporal:—"The regiment will parade at 10 a.m. to-morrow in drill order. The officers will parade undressed" instead of "the officers will parade in undress."

The mistake of omitting an apostrophe and placing a comma after the word "officers" was the cause of still wider consternation amongst the haughty gentlemen of a crack corps. The order read as follows:—"The regiment will parade at 10 a.m. to-morrow in complete marching order. Shoemakers, tailors, officers, servants, and assistant cooks will be in the ranks."

Not many years ago the board of orders for the sentry at the advanced gate on the hill at Windsor Castle read as follows:—"No one allowed to pass through this gate except the royal household and officers in uniform. Beggars, strolling musicians, and stray cattle must not be allowed to pass." Some wag put in a full stop after the word "household," obliterated the word "and," and converted the full stop after uniform into a comma.

The following order issued by a well known commander and read out on three successive parades, caused no little amusement in the ranks:—"The Commanding Officers regret that a large number of men have contracted marriage without obtaining his consent. This is expressly against orders, and, besides, entails great misery and suffering upon the unhappy women, he therefore takes this opportunity to warn all the single men of the regiment that their wives will not be recognised in future, and no indulgence whatever will be granted to them."

The Colonel of an Irish Regiment is responsible for the following:—"Colonel Haggerty desires it to be distinctly understood that no passes for over twenty-four hours will be granted to any man unless written application is made three days subsequent to the time the pass is required. Any man who applies for a pass and does not make use of it, must, before proceeding on leave, or immediately after returning, report that he wishes his pass to be cancelled to the Pay Sergeant, else his indulgences will be stopped for a period of three weeks prior to the date of any such offence."

Another sample, which hails from same national source, ran as follows:—Men who are sick, or who wish to see the Surgeon, must do so at breakfast roll call, by reporting the same to the Orderly Sergeant. Any man who reports himself sick at any other time will be punished for disobedience of orders."—*Answers.*

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"The Thin Red Line" at Balaclava.

—o—

(From the Celtic Monthly.)

A smile lit up Sir Colin's face,
The ranks with martial ardour stirred,
Clear, resonant, the order came,
"Advance the Ninety-Third"!—
The flower of Russian chivalry,
Was theirs to hold in check;
The strong, brave troopers of the Czar,
Who rode in neck by neck.
That thin red line of Gaelic rock,
Just tipped with rows of steel,
Answered with long and steady stride
Their own loved pipe's appeal.

Onward they came, the ground beneath
With shock of cavalry resounds,
Convulsive throes of earth torn up,
With sand, and stones, in air rebounds.
Sparks of fire and sparks of passion,
From ringing hoofs in frenzy fly;
As the stubborn Russian soldiers,
Swept the hill with flashing eye.
Wild the chargers of the Cossack,
Swift and sure the Ukraine breed;
Gathering length and strength of motion,
Steadier in increasing speed.
Those long, lean, hardy Muscovites,
Enduring, patient, strong;
One perfect wave of horsemanship,
Triumphant dashed along.
As a tidal wave rolls onward
Ere the first recoiling shock
Breaks impotent in its anger,
Gainst a wall of solid rock.

Unmoved, the Highlanders stood firm,
As still as classic form engraved:
Save, that the eager breath came short,
And the feather bonnets gently waved.
The thundering hoofs came near and near,
Out rang the minie guns!
Too soon, the line of steel went down,*
From Scotia's hot impetuous sons.
Then upward curled the bearded lips,
The Russians smiled derisive scorn;
Hold fast! hold fast! proud Muscovite,
Ere Russia's sable bear is shorn.

"They're doomed! they're doomed!" the watchers cry,
"Oh! rash and daring deed,
Had they but formed four deep, perhaps†
They might resist such speed."
With bated breath, and anxious eye,
Fixed on that steep incline,
They saw, to oppose a Russian charge,
Nought but a thin red line.

Down poured the Russian cavaliers,
With loosened rein and savage frown,
But ere the shout of victory rose
The front rank, horse and man, went down.
Dismayed, they formed again and charged,
Out rang one volley more:
And every shot that Scotia sent,
For Russia's sons a missive bore.
Again, again, they form, they charge!
That line of steel they dare not pass,
As well might surging seas essay
To break the bulwarks of the Bass.
And, if a kindly Scottish heart
Was stilled, no moan betrayed,
As those pressed ranks the closer drew
The gap his absence made.
But ere the hard held post was won,
Shoulder to shoulder stood
The comrades who avenged his loss,
In streams of Russian blood.

Oh! many a gallant deed was done,
Proved Britain's sons for courage famed,
But foremost on the list stands out,
When Balaclava's fight is named.—
The narrow ridge, the desperate charge,
Where kilted heroes stood that day,
The waving plumes, the glittering steel,
That held the Muscovites at bay.
Well may the flag of gold unfold,
Well may the Lion Rampant shine,
When Scotland celebrates the day,
That saw her glorious "Thin Red Line."

ALICE C. MACDONNELL,

of Keppoch.

London.

* The 93rd fired a volley on the Russians when they came within 600 yards, a distance too great to check the charge.

† Sir Colin Campbell advanced the 93rd in line, disdaining to form even four deep to resist the cavalry charge.

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At the Fort.

—o—

THE Fort Detachment was again changed on the 17th ultimo, "B" Company marching to Lahore and relieving "D" Company on that date. 2nd Lieutenant H. C. MacDonald remained at the Fort as Commandant with Sergeant W. Bates as Acting Sergeant-Major.

* * * * * *

The new detachment was not long in getting settled down and indulging freely in sport. The first cricket match was played on the 20th ultimo against a team representing the Mission School, yclept the Royal Cricket Club, who were defeated by 11 runs. The scores on both sides were not high, the detachment being responsible for 29 and 41, whilst their opponents scored 27 and 32. A second team of natives, employés of the Post Office, was met on the following Thursday, 27th ultimo, the detachment again being victorious, this time by 55 runs. "B" Company in their first attempt put together the very respectable total of 69, Private Braud being the top scored with 20, to this the Post Office could only reply with 31. In the second innings the detachment made 58, Private Milne scoring 18, whilst the natives were all disposed of for 41, the Fort thus being victorious as above stated.

* * * * * *

On Saturday, 22nd, a hotly contested five-a-side football contest took place, the teams of which there were five, being captained by members of the company eleven who chose their own sides. The first match was played between Lance-Corporal McKimm's and Private Duffin's teams, the latter proving victorious by 5 goals to 1. Private Singleton's team then met Private Adcock's and knocked them out 2 to 1. Private Glen's team, who had secured a bye, met Private Singleton's, and after playing two draws with them, each side scoring one goal a piece, were eventually beaten by 2 goals to 1. Darkness here put a finish to the game, and Privates Duffin's and Singleton's teams were to have met to decide supremacy on the following Monday, but owing to the difficulty in getting together the same sides the tournament was abandoned.

The teams were as follows :—

Lance-Corporal McKimm's.—Sergeant Wynne, Corporals Mathew and Johnstone, and Lance-Corporals McKimm and Kettles.

Private Duffin's.—Privates Logan, Green, Barton, Ewing and Duffin.

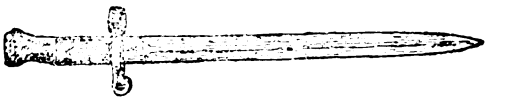
Private Singleton's.—Privates Campbell, McCluskey, Davis, Robertson and Singleton.

Private Adcock's.—Privates Fullbrook, J. Mitchell (3012), Thomas, D. Stewart and Adcock.

Private Glen's.—Drummer Smeaton and Privates Bonner, W. Johnstone (1283), Thomas and Glen.

* * * * * *

On the night of Hogmanay the non-commissioned officers of the detachment gave a capital supper in their mess to welcome the New Year in several invitations being given and heartily responded to. All sat down about half-past ten and did full justice to the good things provided for them. Upon the hour of midnight being sounded on the gong of the native guard the bugler on the barrack square sounded the "Last post," whilst good healths were drunk and "Auld Lang Syne" sung by those in the mess. After this Piper Ferguson played round the tables, and some musicians of the detachment favoured the Company with "A Guid New Year to ane an' a'." Several songs and recitations were then given and some speeches made, the Company dispersing to their homes and quarters at a comparatively early hour.



While under canvas at Dalhousie the ground inside the tents was raised some six or seven inches to prevent the rain coming in during the monsoons. One Thursday, it being a holiday, was devoted by the occupants of a tent, of which Sandy M——was an inmate, to re-laying and re-levelling. On the completion of the work, Sandy was heard to express his admiration in the following words :—

"Ay man, but the floor has a gran' roof tae it."

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Regimental Prize Winners at the Highland Brigade Sports.

—o—

THE following are a list of our first, second and third prize winners at the late Highland Brigade Sports held during the Durbar, and which we have not been able to publish before owing to want of space :—

FIRST PRIZES.

Mile Race (Open).—Private D. Kelley, "C" Company.

Mile Race (Championship of Highland Brigade).—Private Kelley.

Half Mile Race (Open).—Private Kelley.

Quarter Mile Race.—Private J. Adcock, "B" Company.

200 *Yards Race.*—Private Adcock.

100 *Yards Race.*—Private Adcock.

Throwing Light Hammer.—Private A. McInnes, "B" Company.

Pipe Playing (Marches, Strathspeys and Reels).—Piper J. McLean, "B" Company.

SECOND PRIZES.

Throwing Light Hammer.—Private R. Logie, "B" Company.

Putting Heavy Shot.—Private McInnes.

100 *Yards Race.*—Bandsman Lillywhite, "B" Company.

Hurdle Race.—Private Johnson, "C" Company.

Obstacle Race.—Private Williams, "B" Company.

Piobaireachd Playing.—Lance-Corporal Robb, "G" Company.

THIRD PRIZES.

Putting Heavy Shot.—Private A. Milne, "B" Company.

Putting Light Shot.—Private McInnes.

Hurdle Race.—Private Lillywhite.

Marches, Strathspeys and Reels.—Lance-Corporal Robb.

"*Lichts Out!*"—An old Highland Sergeant in one of the Scottish Regiments was going his rounds one night to see that all the lights were out in the barrack-rooms. Coming to a room where he thought he saw a light shining, he roared out: "Put oot that licht there!"

One of the men shouted back: "Man, its the mune, Sergeant." Not hearing very well the Sergeant cried in return: "I dinna care a tacket, what it is—pit it oot!"

Advice to Indian Cricketers.

—o—

THURSDAY will probably be your day for cricket; it is also your holiday, and it might appear, at first sight, advisable to turn up punctually for your match. This would be a mistake, as some of the other fellows are sure to be late, and you will be kept waiting about, which is always a nuisance. To be on the safe side, if 11 o'clock is the hour for play, have breakfast about 11-30, and you might be on the ground by half-past twelve or so. By that time play will probably have begun, so you will not have to wait; besides, it is an even chance that you are on the in side, in which case, if you are not in next, you can go back to your mess and read the English papers.

At 2 o'clock play will stop for tiffin, and the captain of your side may ask you to be ready again in three quarters of an hour! Don't be hard on him; it is only a matter of form: why make a toil of pleasure? Take your time; but if you can't get a game of billiards, you ought to be on the ground again within an hour-and-a-half, otherwise (some men are so touchy) you may get yourself disliked.

Directly you have had your innings, go away and play lawn-tennis. If you are wanted to field, somebody will probably be sent to fetch you: at any rate you cannot be expected to know when your side will get out.

As a rule your stay at the wickets will not be a long one, so you need not throw away your cheroot. Go in with a confident air and one pad. Remember some bowlers are easily "put off." The horse, as the baboo put it, "is a noble animal, but when greatly irritated, he does not do so." No more does the bowler. Take, then, your guard with great accuracy, look all round the field twice, wait for the native to pass from behind the bowler's arm, and assume a commanding attitude. Then, just as the bowler is getting into his swing, ask the umpire to button your left glove. After the wicket keeper has tied your bootlace for you, again face your enemy. You may now let

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him bowl, but do not try to play the ball; draw away from the stumps, and ask the umpire to "stand a bit wider." By this time you may confidently expect the bowler to be "greatly irritated," with (for your side) the happy result predicted of the horse in a similar condition.

Should you unluckily be caught off your hand, throw your bat down and rub your funny bone. Very few umpires would give you out under the circumstances. The principle may be extended in the case of an expected decision of "l b w,"—*verbum sapienti.*

If the wicket keeper is a good one, try and hit him on the head; not too hard, but just so as to stop any officiousness on his part.

If you bowl, you may sometimes get a wicket by bowling before the batsman is ready; but this manœuvre should be used sparingly as there is a prejudice against it. Don't have a long-leg, but put your odd man in some unusual place, say "extra-deep-cover-third-man." He will not be of any use there, but it will have an impression on batsmen who don't know you. If you get hit to leg for five, your captain may use bad language. Point out to him the foolishness of his conduct, and don't change your field on any account.

If your bowling gets punished, swear at the field for not being in their proper places.

Never offer to go off, but if you are taken off, remonstrate, and show by your movements in the field that you feel the insult.

Fielding is slow work, but though you can't well read a novel, you may often smoke, and in a long-field it passes the time to have a fellow to talk to. If there is no one handy to enter into conversation with, play with your dogs.

You will not, of course, wear spikes. There is no credit in fielding if you know you are not likely to slip, and you will be doing your best to maintain the character of the game for "glorious uncertainty."

Never practice cricket, but to keep your eye in, play lawn tennis as often as posssible, especially with ladies. Above all, don't waste your time in practising fielding or catching: you may hurt your hands, and will gain nothing by it, as these departments of the game come to you naturally by intuition.

You may find in your station a few so-called keen cricketers, who talk about "playing the game," are annoyed if fellows come late for a match, are ready to field for the opposite side and commit similar eccentricities. Beware of degenerating into such a character. If you act up to my advice, there will be no fear of your doing so.—*Sprig of Shillelagh.*

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information as to what the troops think may be elicited from it.]

That another new draft has arrived.

That so far they are known as the "lifebuoys."

That they have the new *puggari.*

That the *darzis* will lose a considerable number of "do pice."

That this might suggest another name for them.

That the cricket and football competitions will soon be in full swing.

That the "clocks" are commencing to think about changing rounds.

That Hogmanay was fatal to not a few.

That even signallers are but mortal.

That there were great doings at the New Year.

That it got lost in Lahore for two days.

That it was seen hovering about the bridge for several days afterwards.

That a Sergeant lost a man on piquet.

That he found him in the front rank.

That the coffee shop have been doing business on the Tea Company principle.

That the detacment at the Fort have been going it.

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Regimental Gazette.

Promotion.

The following promotion has been made :—

To be Band Corporal.—No. 1114 Lance-Corporal A. Brown, "D" Company.

Appointments.

The following appointments have been made :—

To be Gymnasium Instructor.—No. 959 Lance-Corporal J. Reid, "F" Company.

To be Bandsman.—No. 4922 Boy R. Green, "A" Company.

Employment.

To be Clerk in Orderly Room.—No. 3579 Private G. Artlett, "C" Company.

Company Transfers.

From "D" to "B" Company.—No. 1114 Corporal A. Brown.

Good Conduct Pay.

The following have been granted 2*d.* per diem.

"A" Company.

No. 2767 Private T. Johnstone. | No. 3048 Private C. Kerr.
,, 3015 ,, D. Mitchell. | ,, 3021 ,, R. Crawford.
,, 2145 ,, W. Learmont. | ,, 3047 ,, J. Milne.
,, 3043 ,, J. McIntosh. | ,, 3049 ,, D. Ferguson.

"B" Company.

No. 3001 Private E. Conley.

"C" Company.

No. 3032 Private E. Gray.

"D" Company.

No. 3004 Lc.-Cpl. R. Spittal. | No. 3014 Private R. Munro.
No. 2533 Private G. Watson.

"E" Company.

No. 2961 Private T. Robertson.

"F" Company.

No. 2982 Private J. Forbes. | No. 3054 Bandsman E. Miller.

"G" Company.

No. 2661 Private J. Drain. | No. 3040 Private W. Wallace.

"H" Company.

No. 3009 Private T. Norman. | No. 2934 Private T. Lynch.

The following have been granted 1*d.* per diem :—

"B" Company.

No. 3839 Private W. Campbell.

"E" Company.

No. 4049 Private J. Diplock.

"F" Company.

No. 2954 Private J. Wilson. | No. 4037 Private F. Smith.
,, 4231 ,, J. Fox. | ,, 4615 Boy D. Kerr.

"H" Company.

No. 3912 Private J. McAllister. | No. 3050 Piper D. McLachlan.

The following have been restored 1*d.*, per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 2918 Private C. Gifford. | No. 3851 Private R. Smith.
,, 3058 ,, W. Wilson. | ,, 3350 ,, T. McAllister.
,, 3232 ,, S. McManns. | ,, 3852 ,, D. Campbell.
,, 2049 ,, W. Hunter. | ,, 3056 ,, P. McFarlane.

"C" Company.

No. 2845 Private D. Anderson.

"D" Company.

No. 4000 Private E. McConnell. | No. 4373 Private D. McFarlane.

"E" Company.

No. 2563 Private J. McDougall.

"F" Company.

No. 3736 Private E. McLeod. | No. 3767 Private A. Hunt.

"G" Company.

No. 3019 Private J. Smith. | No. 3786 Private H. Mayze.
No. 3022 Private W. Moatt.

The Draft.

The following draft from the Home Battalion has been posted as under :—

"A" Company.

No. 4515 Private R. Donaldson. | No. 4712 Private J. Brown.
,, 4534 ,, C. Smith. | ,, 4773 ,, A. Wilson.
,, 4304 ,, A. Hansen. | ,, 5225 ,, W. Hastie.
No. 5210 Boy E. Mounitiam.

"B" Company.

No. 4712 Private T. Blyth. | No. 4435 Private W. Crawford.
,, 4620 ,, J. Fleming. | ,, 4528 ,, R. Hyndman.
,, 4610 ,, A. McDonald. | ,, 4532 ,, E. McLean.
,, 4663 ,, W. Rodgers. | ,, 4581 ,, J. Scott.
,, 4696 ,, J. Thompson. | ,, 4597 ,, W. Wisley.
No. 5160 Boy J. Levington.

"C" Company.

No. 4563 Private A. Adams. | No. 4417 Private J. Brown.
,, 4564 ,, P. Downey. | ,, 4533 ,, W. Scott.
,, 4704 ,, J. Smith. | ,, 5081 Boy R. Kelley.

"D" Company.

No. 3169 Lc.-Sergt. H. Hanson. | No. 4402 Private J. Aitkins.
,, 4927 Private W. Connell. | ,, 4290 ,, J. Duff.
,, 4571 ,, J. Hiddles. | ,, 4568 ,, A. McGregor.
,, 4547 ,, J. White. | ,, 5172 Boy J. McArthur.

"E" Company.

No. 4618 Private J. Adams. | No. 4628 Private G. Ballantyne.
,, 4518 ,, J. Barclay. | ,, 4505 ,, G. Barnes.
,, 4594 ,, A. Bowil. | ,, 4603 ,, D. Brown.
,, 4688 ,, G. Buchan. | ,, 4757 ,, R. Cullen.
,, 4640 ,, P. Davie. | ,, 4552 ,, P. Clark.
,, 4636 ,, A. Dennie. | ,, 4591 ,, T. Duffy.
,, 4630 ,, G. Duncan. | ,, 4632 ,, J. Fitchett.
,, 4646 ,, J. Gowans. | ,, 4562 ,, J. Hume.
,, 4650 ,, W. Hutchinson. | ,, 4281 ,, H. McClimont.
,, 4584 ,, W. McLachlan. | ,, 4748 ,, W. Maxwell.
,, 4455 ,, J. Middleton. | ,, 4715 ,, J. Millar.
,, 4738 ,, W. Speedie. | ,, 4655 ,, J. Walton.
No. 4719 Private J. Lawrence.

"F" Company.

No. 932 Sergt. J. Irvine. | No. 4590 Private J. Watson.
,, 4436 Private J. McMullin. | ,, 4757 ,, Atherton.
,, 4427 ,, W. Murphy. | ,, 4557 ,, W. Patterson.
,, 4692 ,, J. Nolan. | ,, 4617 ,, A. McWilliam.
,, 4539 ,, A. Riddock. | ,, 4317 ,, W. Renwick.
,, 4653 ,, S. Fearn. | ,, 4598 ,, J. Morris.
,, 4631 ,, J. Jarvie. | ,, 4631 ,, J. Fraser.
,, 4430 ,, W. Morrison. | ,, 4509 ,, A. McNeill.
,, 5265 ,, A. Hamilton. | ,, 4367 ,, C. Fills.
,, 4525 ,, R. Scott. | ,, 4447 ,, W. Rae.

"G" Company.

No. 4737 Private T. Adams. | No. 4579 Private W. Benson.
,, 4602 ,, T. Currie. | ,, 4677 ,, D. Gibson.
,, 4567 ,, D. Inglis. | ,, 4645 ,, H. Kelley.
,, 4753 ,, E. McAulay. | ,, 4619 ,, W. McKinnon.
,, 4523 ,, A. McNab. | ,, 4696 ,, C. Ryans.
,, 5266 ,, C. Ray. | ,, 4275 ,, C. Willis.
No. 4530 Private D. McDonald.

"H" Company.

No. 4967 Lc.-Cpl. G. Sear. | No. 4642 Private C. Booth.
,, 4574 Private J. Martin. | ,, 4380 ,, T. Cameron.
,, 4593 ,, W. Livingstone. | ,, 4682 ,, A. Gray.
,, 4600 ,, A. Burke. | ,, 4576 ,, A. McDougall.
,, 4263 ,, J. Laddon. | ,, 4698 ,, J. McIntyre.

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Time Expired.

The following have embarked at Bombay for transfer to the 1st Class Army Reserve:—

No.	2591	Lce.-Sergt. D. Watt.	No.	3219	Corpl. P. Nixon.
,,	2569	Private R. Anderson.	,,	1921	Private H. Carrigan.
,,	2334	,, W. Evans.	,,	2491	,, G. Fowler.
,,	2413	,, A. Liddle.	,,	2438	,, A. McLeod.
,,	2466	,, J. Reid.	,,	2445	,, J. Young.
,,	2573	,, M. Cassells.	,,	2435	,, J. Duncan.
,,	2484	Lce.-Corpl. A. Forshawe	,,	2476	,, T. Lawson.
,,	2441	Private J. McGovern.	,,	2492	,, F. Martin.
,,	2408	,, J. Wallace.	,,	2504	,, J. Williamson.
,,	2511	,, J. Dorran.	,,	2520	,, J. McNairne.
,,	2510	,, E. McIntyre.	,,	1660	,, P. McMillan.
,,	2524	,, W. Blackstock.	,,	2546	,, W. Walker.
,,	2609	,, W. McDade.	,,	2416	,, J. Sanderson.
,,	2589	,, J. Rodgers.	,,	2554	,, J. Lithgow.
,,	2599	,, A. Deane.	,,	2561	,, J. Lindsay.
,,	2535	,, D. Miller.	,,	2563	,, J. McDougall.
,,	2577	,, J. McAlpine.	,,	2553	,, D. McKenna.
,,	1505	,, R. Hart.	,,	2585	,, J. Campbell.
,,	2551	,, A. Leslie.	,,	2597	,, D. McPherson.
,,	2478	,, G. McVicar.	,,	2533	,, G. Watson.
,,	2598	,, A. Lavery.	,,	2029	,, J. Smith.
,,	2548	,, J. Walker.	,,	2574	,, J. Stewart.
,,	2588	,, R. Kinnin-mouth.	,,	2576	,, A. Laidlaw.
,,	2590	,, W. Laidlaw.	,,	2615	,, R. Cuthill.
,,	2621	,, D. Scrimgers.	,,	2628	,, W. Mason.
,,	2630	,, D. Kelly.	,,	2634	,, C. Preston.
,,	2639	,, F. Connelly.	,,	2779	,, J. Martin.
,,	2643	,, A. McArthur.	,,	2648	,, J. Mullen.

———:o:———

DEATHS.

Cameron.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 2nd ultimo, No. 2853 Private D. Cameron, "H" Company.

McPherson.—At the Station Hospital, Fort Lahore, on the 7th ultimo, No. 2722 Lance-Corporal J. McPherson, "E" Company.

———:o:———

THIS is a specimen of what our Commanding Officer has to put up with.

To

The COMMANDING OFFICER,
2-93*rd A. and S. Highlander*,
Meean Meer Cantonment.

Honourable Sir,

I most humbly and submissively beg to bring to your kind consideration that, I am working as Jamadar Cooks since the Regiment came in India, since at the time is no any complain with me, but nowaday Master Cooks are shoulders and the Quarter Master told me, Is no any business of Jamadar Cooks. so I am requesting if I Got leaved, by your honour I should gets my pay, and Chorrecters of my duty well, also I am came in some depts, is no means to get my livelihood except your kind favour for this act of kindness I shall ever pray to the Almety God for your long life and prospriety.

I remain, Sir,
Your most obedient,
MAULA BUX, Jamadar Cooks,
2-93*rd A. and S. Highlander*,
Meean Meer Cantonment

Temperance Notes.

—o—

The Independent Order of Rechabites.

THE "Excelsior" Tent of the Independent Order of Rechabites still flourishes, and its steady roll of membership proves that, at least with a goodly number of the regiment, temperance is popular.

Many pleasant evenings since the return of the Ninety-third to Mian Mir have been passed within the precints of the Rechabite Hall; and each week, as Sunday comes round, the members and their friends meet at a social tea. This weekly tea promotes cordiality and brings many to learn the advantages of belonging to the "Rechabites."

On Christmas Day a large number of members and their friends assembled at the Rechabite Hall at 3 o'clock and partook of dinner, the excellence of which was such that universal expressions of approval were the order; a great feature of the dinner was the pudding, made under European management, and the way in which it disappeared showed that the efforts of the European *chef* had not been in vain.

A varied programme occupied the evening, during which refreshments were served, and, taking everything into consideration, the sons of Rechab contrived to spend a very jolly Christmas without the aid of the "Wassail Bowl."

Meetings are held weekly, and the members will be only too happy to welcome there those who do not feel justified in uniting themselves with the order. An attractive programme for the next six months has been prepared, and a visit to the Rechabites in their home in Simla Street, near the Post Office, will not be time wasted as a hearty welcome awaits all.

———:o:———

The Highlanders at the Battle of Waterloo.

—o—

M. LABY, a Frenchman, writes: "My uncle was a captain in the 'Young Imperial Guard,' a corps formed of young men from eighteen years of age to twenty or twenty-one, all sons of good families. Their officers were men

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of experience and courage drawn from other regiments. They were sent to Waterloo, as were indeed almost all that remained of the French Army. The Emperor was so loth to send them forward that he waited, expecting to be able to do without them. The young men grumbled almost as much as the old Guards. Why did not the Emperor send them forward? At last, about four o'clock, they were sent to the front. Many were the struggles they had. They came in front of the Highlanders, and the fight was fierce, and at last came to a hand-to-hand fight. A Highlander, perceiving that there was a gap round the standard-bearer—his comrades had fallen—threw his musket down, and rushed for the standard, but the young Guard was not willing to let it go. Then a long struggle began; each side ceased firing, each fearing to kill their own hero. At last the Highlander, getting impatient and angry at the resistance of the little Frenchman, flung him, standard and all over his broad shoulders, and carried him over on his side; and then Highlanders and Frenchmen roared and applauded in sheer admiration, and then fire and fight redoubled in vigour. The next day few of the young Guards saw the sun rise. There they lay on the field of Waterloo, and my uncle was found with seventeen wounds. But, however, he recovered to tell the tale, I daresay, many times."

———:o:———

Editorial.

—o—

This is the first number of our new volume, and so we will start by wishing all our readers a Guid New Year.

We have of course very little to say at present as the year is young and nothing has as yet developed to any great extent. Generals Inspection has as yet to be weathered, the Football and Cricket Clocks have again to be lost and won, the Shield has to be fired for, and the winners at the Annual Highland Games are as yet unknown, whilst all the life of the regiment has yet to commence. In the way of a sport we should very much like to see the tug-of-way competition between companies again started. The regiment always prided itself upon its, at one time, invincible team, but with our late reverse and the fact that several of the best men have left it becomes a matter of duty, almost, to select a fres team, and nothing can help the selection better than company contests. These might be started at once and the best teams from the right and left half battalions respectively could meet for the final at the annual sports.

The football team should start the new year with a new heart, for the Simla and Lucknow Cups are yet within their grasp, and the ill luck that has so far followed them may, in 1895, completely change. And the trophies for which they have worked so hard and received so many disappointments may yet be theirs. They have already proved what can be done by winning the Murray Cup in its initial year, and three finals and a semi-final to complete the number of tournaments entered for is not a bad record.

* * * * *

Amongst the names of our yearly subscribers published this month will be noticed that of Mr. James Henderson, a veteran who served in Canada, the Crimea and in India with this regiment. Mr. Henderson is a "thin red line" hero, and it is with the greatest pleasure that we shall send him his paper month by month, and hope with its receipt his blood may warm to the time he formed one of the gallant band who withstood the Muscovite host on that ever memorable October day of eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

* * * * * *

For the convenience of those who intend binding the *Thin Red Line*, we issue with this month an Index to Volume I, which will add considerably to the appearance of the volume when bound besides adding also to its usefulness.

———:o:———

Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions from the following:—

2nd Lieutenant F. G. Newall.
Lieutenant W. J. B. Tweedie.
Private Black.
Lieutenant E. McNeill.
Mr. James Henderson (late 93rd) Dunfermline.
2nd Lieutenant A. H. Maclean.

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following :—

"The Soldier."
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.).
"The XVI" (16th Bedfordshire Regiment).
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Lancashire Lad" (47th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"The Tiger and Sphinx" (75th Gordon Highlanders).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Stirling Observer."
"The Man of the World."
"The Celtic Monthly."

COMPANY AGENTS.

"A"	Company—	Private Watson.	
"C"	"	— Lance-Corporal	Stewart.
"D"	"	— " "	Rankin.
"E"	"	— " "	Prendegast.
"F"	"	— " "	Brodie.
"G"	"	—Private	Buckland.
"H"	"	—Lance-Corporal	Peters.

Band—Private Miller.
Dalhousie Depôt—Lance-Corporal Forbes.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line*:—

With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union. N. C. O.'s and men of the regiment. } Rs. 2 per annum.

Officers and others not connected with the regiment. } Rs. 3 per annum.

NOTA BENE.

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contribution should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

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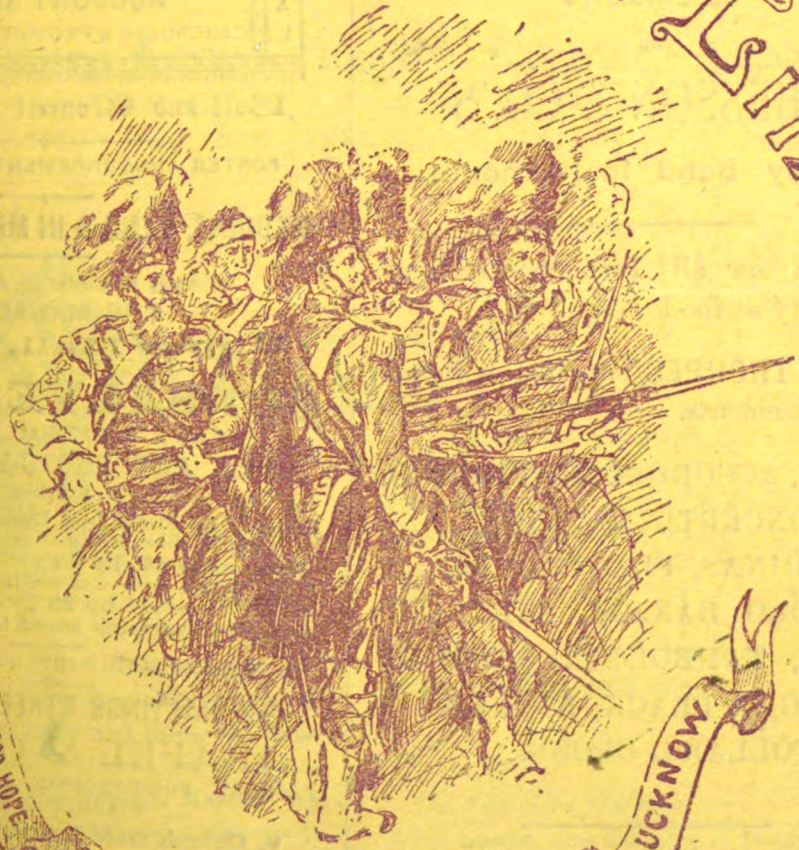

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 2.—Vol. II. MIAN MIR.—FEBRUARY 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas

SKIRLS

THE usual Proclamation Day parade took place on New Year's Day, the Mian Mir Brigade forming up on the *maidan* in front of the British Infantry Lines and firing the usual *feu de joie*. After this, and three hearty cheers had been given for Her Imperial Majesty, the troops formed up for a march past, afterwards returning to barracks about midday. There were present on parade, besides ourselves, the 34th Pioneers, 20th Punjab Infantry, 24th and 46th Field Batteries, and 19th Bengal Lancers.

* * * * * *

According to authorities G. O. C. C. 1182 of 1894, Captain R. L. E. McKerrell has passed the examination in subjects (*c*) and (*d*) for promotion to the rank of Major Distinguished in Field Fortification and Military Law.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant McNeill is the first of our officers lucky enough to be chosen for active service, he having left to join the 2nd Brigade operating against the Waziris at Jandola as Assistant Signalling Officer.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant Malcolm has been granted leave home on medical certificate.

* * * * * *

The Man of the World says :—

The transfer from Aldershot to the Duke of York's School, Chelsea, of the Rev. G. H. Andrews, M. A., has brought to the latter institution a very popular Chaplain. His services and work in the North Camp at Aldershot can never be forgotten. He is in truth the soldiers' friend, and no better man could have been selected by the Chaplain General for a position in which, above all others, the right man for the right place was absolutely necessary.

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The Rev. Mr. Andrews is an old friend of this Battalion and all ranks who have known him will, in addition to congratulating him upon his appointment, agree that no one is better fitted for it than our late Chaplain of the 3rd Brigade at Aldershot.

* * * * * *

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India is pleased to present the following Musketry prizes to British Troops to be competed for during the season 1894-95 :—

British Cavalry, Royal Artillery and Infantry serving within the limits of the Bengal Presidency.

1*st Prize.*—A Silver Cup.

2*nd Prize.*—A purse of Rs. 100 to British Cavalry or Artillery.

3*rd Prize.*—A purse of Rs. 100 to British Infantry.

The first prize will be awarded to that (Cavalry, Artillery or Infantry) making the highest aggregate score in the following competition ; the second prize to Cavalry or Artillery team, and third prize to Infantry team making the best aggregate score in the contest.

The following are the conditions :—Individual firing, seven rounds at 200 yards, standing. Seven rounds at 500 yards, Cavalry sitting, Infantry kneeling. Seven rounds at 800 yards, any military position.

The competition will be conducted according to the Rules of the Bengal Presidency Rifle Association for 1894.

His Excellency is also pleased to present a similar prize to be competed for by Native Troops under similar rules and conditions.

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The football season may be said to have commenced in the battalion on the 14th ultimo, when the League Matches for the Football Clock were commenced. The number of the last draft included in the various Company teams seems to be the chief feature of this season's matches, and as several prominent players have left or are leaving this year, the influx of new material should prove most acceptable and give a fresh impetus to this national pastime.

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2nd Lieutenant A. H. Maclean has been appointed Brigade Instructor of Signalling, Lieutenant McNeill having proceeded to the front.

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No. 3906 Lance Corporal J. Lee "A" Company has been transferred to the Indian unattached list for duty in the Commissariat and he is to be congratulated upon at last having been absorbed in the Department.

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On the 17th ultimo, Color-Sergeant J. Wright, after nearly 20 years' service, 16 of which have been spent as a member of the Sergeants' Mess, left the battalion to take up the appointment of Sergeant Instructor of Volunteers to our Volunteer Battalion at Inverary. On the evening of the 15th, a farewell smoking concert was held in the Sergeants' Mess, the opportunity being taken to present Sergeant Wright with a purse as a mark of esteem from his brother Sergeants. Sergeant-Major McRae, in making the presentation, apologized for the quality of it, saying that there had not been sufficient time to make a suitable purchase, and that Color-Sergeant Wright must buy something with the contents to remind him of the Sergeants of the Ninety-third. After the presentation Color-Sergeant Wright was chaired round the Mess room by the Sergeants of "B" Company, and a musical evening concluded the proceedings, the following being the programme .—

Song	... ...	"Finnigan's Wake."
	Sergeant Murray.	
Song	... ...	"I'm in the Chair."
	Sergeant Meston.	
Encore	... ...	"The Old Rustic Bridge."
Song	... ...	Sergeant McConnel.
Song	... ...	"Bonnets O'Blue."
	Sergeant J. Blair.	
Encore	... ...	"My Old Kentucky Home."
Song	... ...	"The Shamrock, Thistle & Rose."
	Sergeant Goodwin.	
Song	... ...	"My Heather Hills."
	Sergeant Peggie.	
Song	... ...	"The Cottage where Burns was Born."
	Sergeant Pringle.	
Encore	... ...	"The Song that reached my heart."

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The singing of Auld Lang Syne by the company concluded the proceedings, Color-Sergeant Wright being wished a good voyage and success in his appointment by all present.

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The farewell inspection of the battalion by Major-General Viscount Frankfort, Commanding the Lahore District, took place on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th January, and passed off most successfully. General Frankfort, at the conclusion of his inspection, made some most flattering remarks respecting the general state and efficiency of the battalion, and Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh can congratulate himself upon the success of his maiden inspection.

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Lieutenants McNeill and Malcolm have passed the Higher Standard Hindustani Examination.

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Lieutenant A. Sutherland, who attended the last class at Changla Gully, has been granted an Officer's Extra Certificate of Musketry; whilst a Certificate qualifying him for the appointment of Sergeant Instructor of Musketry to a battalion has been granted to Sergeant J. W. Green.

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This trooping season has deprived the battalion of some of its best soldiers, amongst the number being Corporal Fletcher and Private P. Walker of the Tug-of-war team. Before leaving, both were presented with silver medals by their "Tug-of-war comrades, 93rd Highlanders, India," to quote the inscription on the medals, as mementos of their prowess on the rope.

MILITARY JOURNALISM.—The current issue of *The Broad Arrow: the Naval and Military Gazette*, marks an advance in Service journalism. The oldest-established of journals representing the Army and the Navy, *The Broad Arrow*, is now the youngest as well in outward appearance as in the vigorous nature of its contents. There is no change either in the Editorship or in the policy of the paper, and the improvements inaugurated in the current issue should certainly add to its popularity in the Services.

Masonic.

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AT a largely attended meeting of Lodge "St. John the Evangelist" at Mian Mir on the 13th December last, Brother Lieutenant Sutherland was elected Worshipful Master for 1895 and was installed according to ancient custom at the Meeting on the 10th January by a Board of Past Masters, composed of Worshipful Brothers Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Calthrop, Sergeant-Major E. Farrance and Color-Sergeant Wright. After the Lodge was closed the brethren and their guests sat down to a banquet in a spare room in the Post Office, kindly lent for the occasion by Brother Gobhardan Dass, the Post Master.

Dinner ended after several toasts had been proposed and many speeches had been made, the evening was devoted to harmony, and some very good songs were sung, notably two by Captain Owen, a guest on the occasion.

In connection with Lodge "St. John the Evangelist," a Masonic Amusement Club was founded last year, membership of which, however, is not restricted to Masons, the object of the Club being to provide a place of recreation for residents in Mian Mir. With this object two lawn-tennis courts and as many for badminton have been made in the Lodge grounds, and books, newspapers and indoor games provided in the ante-room of the Lodge, which has been given up to the use of the members of the Club, except when required for Masonic purposes; but, this room being too small for dancing in, Brother Gobhardan Dass has kindly offered the use of a large spare room in the Post Office, in which it is hoped to give fortnightly dances during the cold weather. Three dances have already been given, the first it must be confessed not having been a success owing to the absence of the fair sex, but the last two have been very well attended, and the Club appears likely to become a most popular institution.

A local printer heads his circulars as follows:—

"May God bless the General and all his Staff and all other Officers of the Lahore District. Trusting they all will come forward and stretch forth their liberal hand of support towards this poor old Printer."

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New Year's Day Celebrations.

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THE New Year's festivities passed off very quietly in the battalion this year. All the Companies indulged in the usual New Year's dinner, but they were mostly conducted under section arrangements, each section providing for itself, and only "E," "F," and "H" Companies sat down together. Very little in the way of decoration was done, the men preferring something of a more substantial nature than tinsel and colored papers, the Band and "H" Company being about the only exceptions in this respect. Very little can be said about the dinners in general, all were excellent and seemed to be thoroughly enjoyed by those assembled round the various festive boards, chickens, ducks, geese and the time-honored Christmas pudding being on the menu, whilst the liquid refreshment was in all cases most plentiful. The Company Officers in most cases attended the dinners, the headquarter section of "B" Company being best off in this respect, Major Napier, Lieutenants Patten and Darroch honoring the Company with their presence. In "E" Company, Lieutenant Marshall and 2nd Lieutenant Villiers-Stuart were carried enthusiastically round the room before being allowed to take their seats at the head of the table. The married people of each Company were also in most cases present at the dinners.

If any exception is to be made in reference to the dinners, it must certainly be made in favour of the Band, the dinner being supplemented by a dance in the evening, adding greatly to the enjoyment. Our Band correspondent supplies us with the following account:—

Festivities started at 2 p.m. in the shape of a steaming hot dinner; thanks to the Committee for preparing the same, everything that was required for satisfying the inner man being on the tables. How the faces brightened when the waiters brought in the Christmas "duff" with a piece of holly (which had been sent all the way from home) decorating the centre.

Forty members of the Band sat down to dinner together with several guests, Drum-Major Thompson as an ex-bandsman being present. The table reflected the greatest credit on the Committee for the way in which it was laid, whilst, for the good things that covered it Joe Brown, who was Treasurer, was responsible. Although he is a bit corpulent, "Sandy" Lyons made a splendid waiter, and Benson was also there in the same capacity, whilst Joe Brown knocked about in his usual lively spirits. Corporal Waters and "Jock" Dunlop had all their work cut out in their capacity as carvers, and I am sure our friends of the poultry yard had little time for comment from the time we sat down till we finished. For desert there was a large supply of the choicest fruits, such as only the tropics can supply.

After dinner we all retired for a comfortable smoke and chat, while the ever-energetic Committee went to work preparing the room in which dancing was to take place in the evening. Sharp at 6 o'clock the Band started a Polka, the first dance on the programme. Quite a large number of the fair sex favoured the room with their presence, and the room presented a very gay appearance. The decorations were remarkably smart, the chief attraction being a centre piece composed of photographs of bandsmen, past and present, bordered and decorated in white and gold, underneath the photo being the name of each individual. This was surrounded by evergreens and roses, whilst all the walls were covered with tastefully decorated designs, for which Messrs. Lyons and Dunlop were responsible.

One end of the room was made to represent an old-fashioned Country Inn, with the musical term B. Sharp, as the sign ("Be Sharp In"). This was well patronized during the evening, the liquor supply being very plentiful. The ceiling was beautifully finished with colored paper chains and Chinese lamps suspended from the punkah rods, whilst the room was so well lighted up that for the moment all thought we were back amongst the gas once more. The dancing came to a finish after a most enjoyable evening about 10-15 p.m., owing to the limited time, great astonishment being depicted on each one's countenance on the strains of "God save the Queen" being heard, the evening seeming to be so very short.

Great credit is due to the Bandsmen who supplied the music during the various dances. Lieutenant Darroch was the only officer who paid us a visit during the evening. The festivities were continued next day after parade by a good smoking concert.

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The Annual Inspection, 1895.

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THE second annual inspection of the Battalion, since its arrival in Mian Mir, began on Tuesday, 22nd January.

At 9 a.m. Major-General Viscount Frankfort and his Staff arrived at the Orderly Room where they inspected all the books of the Battalion and the various Company books. This took till nearly eleven o'clock, and a move was then made to some of the Regimental Institutes which were inspected and highly approved of.

The General next saw the Shelter Trench Drill by "F" Company, the loading and packing of mules by "G" Company, and the Escalading Drill by "A" Company. All these, more or less extraordinary drills, were satisfactorily performed. Immediately afterwards followed sword drill by all the officers and then a squad did some gymnastics. Then began the inspection of the barrack-rooms, cook-houses, and out-houses of the whole Battalion. Commencing with "H" Company, the General went round all the barracks taking the Hospital and Schools as well.

It was now the men's dinner time, and doubtless the General was feeling quite inclined for some lunch himself, so the morning work was concluded. In the afternoon, the Battalion paraded in field service order and was inspected by the General. The right half Battalion was then dismissed and the left half remained to be drilled by the junior officers. This ordeal passed off successfully, and concluded the first day's programme.

On Wednesday, 23rd, the Battalion paraded at 8 a.m. in drill order, khaki, for outpost duty. The whole Battalion was to form a line of outpost with supports to guard against a force advancing from the direction of Shalimar. The picquets took up a general line on or near the road running from Mian Mir Cantonments to Lahore past the race-course. The line extended from the Level Railway Crossing at Mian Mir West to the Jail.

At 10 a.m. the General and Staff rode up and inspected the dispositions that had been made. After this was concluded the close sounded and the Companies marched home independently.

In the afternoon the Battalion paraded and was marched to the Ranges where the "Attack" was performed successfully. This was followed by an examination of the officers. The left half Battalion was then sent home and the right half remained to be drilled by the more senior officers. The left half were ordered to move off at the double, and were not stopped till they had covered a good thousand yards. In this distance a good third of the men fell out.

The General subsequently remarked that this large percentage of men falling out could be easily accounted for by the bad effects of the Mian Mir climate on the constitutions of the men.

The right half Battalion arrived home soon after the left half, and thus concluded our second day's inspection. In the evening, the officers of the Regiment entertained the General and Staff and a large number of other guests at dinner, and a pleasant evening was spent.

On Thursday morning, the Officers, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants paraded by the Rifle Ranges, where the General witnessed revolver shooting by the Officers and Staff Sergeants, and Range finding by the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers. The instrument used was the Weldon range finder. Some musketry practice with ball ammunition was also performed by two Companies. The scheme was drawn up by Captain Mayhew, D. A. A. G. for Musketry, and the results were satisfactory.

In the afternoon, the Battalion paraded on the polo ground in review order. The General arrived about 3 p m., and was received by the usual general salute. He then inspected the Battalion and afterwards we marched past, first in column of double Companies and then quarter column.

Then followed bayonet exercise and physical drill and some Battalion drill by the Colonel and the Second-in-Command. Then, we were formed up in quarter column and the General gave us some remarks on the inspection which was now concluded. He said that he was very pleased with everything he had seen, and it would be a great pleasure to him to report very favourably on the state of the Battalion.

What more could we wish. We hear that this is the last inspection that Lord Frankfort will hold in Mian Mir as he soon leaves India for England. I am sure all ranks respectfully and heartily wish him success and good luck wherever he may go.

T. W.

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What the Parrot is saying.

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[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT in connection with the "New Year's Spree" the Band held a smoking concert.

That it believes the following was the programme :—

"Put me in my little bed," ...	Bandsman	C. Farley.
"Horse Guards Blue" ...	,,	W. Willcocks.
"Life in the East End of London	Corporal	A. Watters.
"The Heavy Brigade" ...	Bandsman	W. Walker.
"Out on the Ocean" ...	,,	J. Dunlop.
"The Canteen Slavey" ...	,,	J. Brown.
"I'll take you home again Kathleen"	,,	J. Brotherston.
"He's such a nice man too" ...	,,	T. Hickman.
"The Waitah"	,,	J. Benson.
"Send for the Flacherty's ...	,,	A. Johnson.
"Parlez vous Francais" ...	,,	E. Miller.
"The Angels have called him Home"	,,	C. Greenland.
"The Stowaway"	,,	J. Hall.
"I'm Another"	,,	E. Chidley.
"Only a little pair of Shoes" ...	,,	R. Ward.
"I was in it"	,,	J. Ogden.
"The Masher up to data" ...	Lan.-Corpl	J. Walsh.
"The Corpulent Fireman" ...	Bandsman	G. Heyward.
"I'm afloat"	,,	G. Russell.
"Edunno where 'e are" ...	,,	W. Gadd.
"I'm a Scotchman born" ...	,,	E. Fell.
"The Jolly Irishman	,,	E. Mackie.
"The Coster's Serenade" ...	,,	W. Smith & G. Green.
A Stump Speech on Drink by	,,	J. Denholm.

That it wont vouch for the veracity of its informant.

That a disciple of Jeshuron has returned to his duty.

That the Football League was rushed through.

That "A" Company head the list.

That they never received much opposition.

That they would like to bring off a triple or even a quadruple event.

That they have their eye upon the Physical Drill Shield.

That it wont do to leave training to the last moment as they have been doing.

That General's inspection was most successfully passed through.

That the shooting of a certain S. S. called for comment from the General.

That there will soon be frontier medals in the Battalion.

That the pay list troubled the mind of a certain Sergeant.

That the Tug-of-war team have recovered from the Durbar.

That it knows of a novel use for a sandwich.

That it mared the place for a dance.

Regimental Gazette.

Appointments.

The following appointments have been made :—

To be Lance-Corporal—No. 2872 Private W. McLachlan, "C" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 4304 Private A. Hansen, "A" Company, and No. 3293 Private H. Williams, "B" Company.

To be Drummer.—No. 3746 Private W. Brown, "C" Company.

To be Pioneer.—No. 4584 Private W. McLachlan, "E" Company.

Employment.

To be Provost Sergeant.—No. 2032 Sergeant R. Simd.

To be Assistant Gymnasium Instructors.—No. 3293 Lance-Corporal Williams and No. 4304 Lance-Corporal Hansen.

To be A. T. A. Barman.—No. 3358 Private J. Dodds, "C" Company.

To be employed in Regimental Theatre.—No. 3206 Private E. J. Smith, "D" Company.

Re-engaged.

To complete 21 years with the Colors.—No. 1787 Sergeant W. Bates, "B" Company.

Recruit Joined.

Taken on strength of Battalion.—Boy M. W. Fogg.

Numbers.

Allotted numbers.—Private D. McBean, "E" Company, No. 5293. Private J. Stevenson, "D" Company, No. 5294. Private T. Beasley, "G" Company, No. 5295.

Transfers.

No. 5210 Boy E. Moyinhan, "A" Company, to 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Hindustani Examination.

No. 3331 Private F. Johnstone passed Part I. Lower Standard.

Good Conduct Pay.

The following have been granted 2*d.* per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 3032 Private G. Sweeney. | No. 3061 Private P. Fowler.
No. 3075 Private L. Grant.

"D" Company.

No. 2888 Private J. Hall. | No. 3073 Private A. Grozier.
No. 2815 Private J. Drummond.

The following has been restored 2*d.* per diem :—

"H" Company.

No. 2836 Private J. Graham.

The following have been granted 1*d.* per diem :—

"C" Company.

No. 4642 Private C. Booth. | No. 4621 Boy C. White.

"D" Campany.

No. 4004 Private W. Galbraith.

"E" Campany.

No. 4628 Private G. Ballantyne. | No. 4603 Private D. Brown.
,, 4140 ,, W. Dormer. | ,, 4630 ,, G. Duncan.
,, 4632 ,, G. Fitchett. | ,, 4655 ,, J. Walton.
No. 3634 Private D. Thompson.

"F" Company.

No. 4653 Private S. Fearne. | No. 4631 Private J. Jarvie.
No. 4598 Private J. Watson.

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"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4045 Private H. Kelley. | No. 3890 Private R. Houston.
No. 4602 Private T. Currie.

The following have been restored 1*d.* per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3872 Private J. Gray. | No. 3284 Private A. Emerson.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 2645 Private W. Duguid.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 1846 Private G. Evans.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 3405 Private F. Hanlon. | No. 2960 Private J. Merrilees.
„ 3368 „ H. Nicholson. | „ 2897 „ H. Smith.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 3925 Private R. Bateman. | No. 2270 Private R. McGarvie.
No. 4016 Private T. Melon.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 3736 Private E. McLeod.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 3156 Private A. O'Hara.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 4197 Private T. Waight. | No. 3138 Private T. Armstrong.
„ 3018 „ J. McColl. | „ 2849 „ W. Cossar.
No. 2926 Private J. Melville.

TIME EXPIRED.

The following have embarked at Bombay for transfer to the 1st Class Army Reserve :—

No. 2718	Corporal	T. Fletcher.	No. 1213	Private	J. Gorman.
„ 2644	Private	J. Alexander.	„ 2645	„	W. Duguid.
„ 2645	„	R. McCaskill.	„ 2651	„	D. Robb.
„ 2655	„	D. McKay.	„ 2663	„	T. Donald.
„ 2545	„	J. Lynch.	„ 2657	„	P. Roy.
„ 2661	„	J. Drain.	„ 4727	„	J. McLachlan.
„ 2711	„	J. Donnolly.	„ 2715	„	W. Stevenson.
„ 2717	„	P. Walker.	„ 2724	„	W. Hammond.
„ 2550	„	J. Hughes.	„ 2728	„	T. Porter.
„ 2926	„	W. Melville.	„ 3192	„	G. Gray.

INVALIDS.

The following have been transferred home as invalids :—

No. 3218	Lc.-Cpl.	W. Harper.	No. 2489	Private	W. Maxton.
„ 4347	Private	D. Goldie.	„ 3495	„	W. Marsland.
„ 4471	„	J. Stewart.	„ 3754	„	W. Woolcott.
„ 3728	„	E. Motton.	„ 4424	„	W. Keenan.
„ 2982	„	J. Forbes.	„ 4111	„	F. Tidmarsh.

No. 4135 Private E. Alexander.

VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTOR.

The following has been transferred home to take up an appointment as Sergeant Instructor of Volunteers :—

No. 217 Color-Sergeant J. Wright.

MOUNTED INFANTRY CERTIFICATES.

The following have been granted Mounted Infantry Certificates :—

2nd Lieutenant A. H. Maclean.

No. 3151	Sergeant	C. Stubbs.	No. 3185	Lance-Corporal	Adams
„ 3591	Private	R. Williams.	„ 3416	Private	N. Stewart.
„ 3303	„	C. Addis.	„ 4310	„	R. French.
„ 3201	„	S. Sparling.	„ 2270	„	R. McGarvie.
„ 4008	„	J. Duffin.	„ 2711	„	J. Donnoly.
„ 3723	„	R. Fraser.	„ 3474	„	S. Bullen.
„ 3594	„	J. Townley.	„ 3519	„	M. Hales.
„ 2768	„	W. McRae.	„ 3093	„	H. Wallen.
„ 3444	„	A. Kay.	„ 3893	„	J. Docherty.
„ 4007	„	T. Neilson.	„ 4033	„	J. Forrester.

NURSING CERTIFICATES.

The following have been granted certificates for proficiency in nursing duties :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3279 Private C. Fowler. | No. 3258 Private A. Holden.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 3319 Private A. Partridge.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 2678 Private I. Bean.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 3611 Private A. Maskell.

"*H*" *Company.*

No 4251 Private H. Bovill. | No. 3262 Private A. Fairman.

Quadrille Party at Fort Lahore.

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UNDER the impression that they were to say farewell to the Fort on the 4th instant "B" Company, to celebrate their departure, gave a grand quadrille party on Wednesday, 30th ultimo. The tripping took place in the non-commissioned officers' mess, which was most suitably arranged for the occasion, dancing *durries* being provided and the floor being in excellent condition.

A considerable number of guests from Lahore —fortunately mostly ladies—honored the dance with their presence, whilst the staff of the Fort was well represented: Mian Mir, although favoured with invitations, did not respond as might have been expected, the distance perhaps being accountable for this.

Punctually at half-past nine dancing commenced and continued without intermission—three supper dances being played—till early the following morning. The ever energetic M. C.'s doing their utmost to prevent "wall flowerism" and succeeded to admiration.

Almost immediately after supper, which was served in the Library and reflected the greatest credit upon the caterers; Mrs. Wynne and Private Brand, by request, favoured the company with a duet—"Ye Banks and Braes o' Bonnie Doon," which was vociferously applauded, and dancing again started with renewed vigor.

The majority of the visitors, who had any considerable distance to go, left about one o'clock, but it was long after this hour before "Sir Roger de Coverly," and an excellent musical programme wound up the most enjoyable evening that has been spent at Fort Lahore for a considerable time. The music, which was all that could be desired, was supplied by the Bandsmen of "B" Company, who journeyed all the way from head-quarters for the occasion, whilst Privates Brand and P. Fowler, as masters of ceremonies, did all in their power towards the success of the entertainment.

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A Song and a Grasp.

—:o:—

A CHRISTMAS GREETING.

I.

Well, here's a song and a greeting, lads—a word for each mother's son,
From the utmost East to the farthest West, who carries a sword or a gun!
From the North to the South where the orange-grove waves, to India's golden strand,
Let's give a cheer for the men without fear, and a soldier's hand in hand.

II.

'The Man of the World,' in London town, O! in soldierly ways he's mellow,
And there's not a man from Beersheba to Dan, but calls him a jolly good fellow;
He's the great god Mars to the Queen's Hussars, and from him they get all their paces;
His nod decides the fashion for brides, for cabinet councils and races!

III.

Then, the Fifth Fusiliers at Aldershot—we mustn't forget them in passing—
They're great in parade, with musket or spade, in drilling, in skirmish, or massing;
And you can just bet their 'St. George Gazette' never hides their light from the nation,
But gives, as their due, a platter for two—when it comes to serving the ration!

IV.

And the 'Sprig of Shillelagh' is budding yet in the island of beauty and story,
Waving bright o'er the path the 'Killens' must tread to the summits of honor and glory!
From Jersey isle, right over the way, 'Ours' rolls on the 'Green Howards' greeting,
With a rap and a tap that bravely keeps the world-wide drums a-beating!

V.

We've a signal set for the 'Light Bob Gazette' in colors of red, white and blue,
And we flash love's sign to the 'Thin Red Line' in India's Sabathu.
Let the greeting blaze o'er the ocean sprays to 'The Soldier' of Bangalore,
For a brotherly heart should have no part in the distance from shore to shore!

VI.

Ah! last—not least—we shall spread a feast of welcome and Christmas cheer
For the martial men who battle with pen for the Yankee volunteer!
They're modest, alas!—but we'll let that pass—as the Lord just that way made 'em,
And, surely, His grace has the right in the case—for He alone has paid 'em!

VII.

Here's 'The Army and Navy Journal' man, why—so I'm told on the quiet—
Lamont never orders a sword or a gun, and never suppresses a riot,
Without wiring down to New York town: 'Dear Journal, how shall I do it?'
For he knows very well the 'Journal' will tell the slickest way to get thro' it.

VIII.

Ah, yes, let us laugh and have our chaff at our soldierly joys and follies,
But in every land let us clasp hand in hand to-night 'neath the Christmas hollys!
With a single voice let us all rejoice in the loves that each must cherish,
While the Prince of Peace bids war to cease and hatred of men to perish!

IX.

For, after it all, the sword and the ball must only be means to fashion,
The love and the awe of the *Reign of Law*, and the death of wrong and passion.
Yea, the Right must win, tho' the battle's din with mighty sound oppose it.
It climbs o'er the steeps while the dull world sleeps—for the good God made and chose it!

X.

So, here's a song and a greeting, lads—a word for each mother's son,
From the utmost East to the farthest West, who carries a sword or a gun;
From the North to the South where the orange-grove waves, to India's golden strand,
Let's give a cheer for the men without fear, and a soldier's hand in hand.

JOHN JEROME ROONEY—in *The Seventh Regiment Gazette.*

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At the Fort.

—o—

PROCLAMATION day was celebrated at the Fort in the usual way—a Royal salute of thirty-one guns being fired from the saluting battery in honor of the anniversary of Her Majesty's proclamation as Empress of India. The remainder of the day passed very quietly, the garrison having no New Year's dinner celebration.

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On the 5th ultimo a cricket match took place. "B" Company on account of having a very weak team meeting with a reverse, their opponents, a native team, scoring 114 against 25, and 33 for 5 wickets by the home side.

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On Thursday, 10th, to vary the monotony, a football match took place against a team of telegraphic signallers from Lahore. A fairly good game was witnesssd, but "B" Company proved too strong for the telegraphists, and the match resulted, was as only expected, in a win for the detachment by 5 goals to one.

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On the 17th the garrison played their fourth cricket match, and were victorious by 12 runs and 6 wickets. The visitors—a Mahommadan team—batted first, but could make very little of the deliveries of Lance-Corporal Crichton and Private Milne, they being all disposed of for 35. "B" Company then followed, and mainly through a 'not out' innings by Private Green succeeded in scoring 54. The natives again essayed and were more successful in their second attempt, running up a total of 52 before being all disposed of. This left the detachment 34 to win, and by a well played 'not out' innings of 25 by Private Milne, they succeeded in passing their opponents' score, and when time was called had totalled 45 for 4 wickets, Private Green being again not out with 12 runs to his credit.

* * * * * *

Since the 14th "B" Company's Football Team has been making almost daily visits to Mian Mir to take part in the League matches with varying success.

On the 17th the telegraphic signallers brought down a cricket team to play the detachment and were able to take full revenge for their defeat at football the previous Thursday. The detachment batted first, but only managed to score 69, of which Private Brand was responsible for 29. The Lahore team then wielded the willow and were not disposed of until they had run up a total of 159. The detachment in their second attempt were less successful than in their first, and being unable to play out time and dismissed for 52 were thus beaten by an innings and 38 runs.

* * * * * *

On the same date Color-Sergeant Wright before leaving for home was presented by the Company with a meerschaum and briar pipe, a smoker's companion, a tobacco pouch and a malacca cane as a mark of esteem. Acting Sergeant Major N. Ramage in the name of the Company made the presentation and said:—

"COLOR-SERGEANT WRIGHT,—I have a few words to say before you leave us, and I also wish to present you in the name of the Company with these few souvenirs as a mark of the esteem in which you are held, and which we hope will, when you are seated in a cosy arm-chair in front of a blazing fire in bonnie Scotland, remind you of us and of the thirteen years you have spent as Color-Sergeant of this Company. Color-Sergeant Wright, the Company wish you, Mrs. Wright and family the best and smoothest of smooth voyages, and the best of good luck in your new appointment."

Color-Sergeant Wright in reply thanked all for the very handsome presents, and said he would never forget the many happy days he had spent in the regiment and in "B" Company. Three cheers were then given and headed by Piper Ferguson playing "Happy we've been a' thegither" he was chaired to the Mess admidst more cheering.

* * * * * *

Colonel Fetherstonhaugh visited the Fort on the 26th ultimo and inspected the detachment. After having seen the kits and inspected the barrack rooms with which he expressed himself thoroughly satisfied, the Commanding Officer visited the hospital and finished up with the canteen, library and non-commissioned officers' mess.

* * * * * *

On the following Monday, 30th, the General Officer Commanding the District, made his inspection arriving about 11 o'clock. The garrison in review order was drawn up on the square to

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receive him, ours on the right and the 34th Pioneers on the left. General Frankfort was received with a general salute after which he inspected the line and asked if there were any complaints, the detachment being then dismissed. An inspection of the barrack rooms in which the kits were laid down followed and the General expressed himself much pleased with everything he saw. The various departmental buildings and the hospital were next, and afterwards the walls of the fortress, a special part where ingress or egress is comparatively easy being inspected.

———:o:———

For St. Valentine's Day.

—o—

14th February 1895.

To "A" Company.

From T. S.

We have the clock, we have the shield,
We have the strong men too
Although some good ones quiffed the boat,
We yet have still a few
To uphold the honour of the troop
And keep the sport alive,
But *I* wont be happy till we get
The trophies "five."

To "B" Company.

From W. B.

We have no football clock, alas! alas!
That things should come to such a pass,
We lost it, we'll admit, 'tis true,
But, in its stead, the other one will do,
We'll get the clock for playing cricket,
We'll get it, even if we have to "nick it."

To "C" Company.

From T. A. S.

We have no clock, we have no shield,
We're routed from the athletic field,
But (tell it not in Gath), we've got
Old "Buffy" Brown, the "batts," best shot.

To "D" Company.

From A. McD.

We've fallen on evil days, but, never mind,
We'll rise again, and then you'll find,
That when we're drawn to play a match
We will not be like cats and "scratch."

To "E" Company.

From L. R.

Two months ago, I had a vision fair,
I thought the football clock was there,
Just on that shelf, won by a fresh-imported team,
But clock, etcetera, vanished like a dream.

To "F" Company.

From R. L.

I've heard it said, when Noah's Ark was reared,
The mystic letter, "F" upon it first appeared,
So now, whene'er a trophy's bought,
And to the regiment it is brought,
The letter "F" is on it;
The reason—well, *some* people say,
It might take wings and fly away,
Or, in other words, we'd pawn it.

To "G" Company.

From J. W.

Of clocks and shields we are bereft,
We haven't even a protest left,
But still, we've got one "curio" yet,
We've got the "regimental pet."

To "H" Company.

From W. H. B.

Oh! that this too, too solid flesh would melt,
Here, underneath this button, here, just below the belt,
I'm hanged if I would stick it, in "dock" to lay me down,
I'd try and work the Depôt, but for that blesséd "crown."

———:o:———

BIRTH.

Miller.—At Mian Mir, on the 17th December 1894, the wife of No. 2430 Lance-Corporal A. Miller, "H" Company, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

Williams—Taylor.—At Holy Trinity Church, Windsor, by the Rev. A. Robins, M. A., Alfred T. Williams, Bandmaster, Royal Irish Rifles, (late Band Sergeant Ninety-third Highlanders), to Mary Elizabeth ("Dottie"), eldest daughter of Isaac Taylor, late Canteen Steward, Ninety-third Highlanders.

DEATH.

Metcalfe.—At the Station Hospital, Fort Lahore, on the 22nd ultimo, No. 3155 Private J. Metcalfe, "D" Company.

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Lahore District Assault-at-Arms.

—:o:—

THE annual Assault-at-Arms, under the patronage of General Lord Frankfort, was most successfully carried out on the 29th and 30th January. A large number of events were decided on each day, the space roped in being capable of allowing for at least half-a-dozen competitions taking place at one time and occupying the attention of the whole of the large crowds of spectators who thronged round the enclosures on both days.

Last year, although in the district, we were on the march and only entered for two competitions our signallers and tug-of-wars men leaving at Jullundur for Mian Mir to compete, both being successful in getting first prizes. This year, being in the station, we, of course, appropriated a much larger portion of the programme, and, taking all things into consideration, were fairly successful. It is, however, a great mistake to leave the training of a team for any combined display to the last moment, for nothing but practice can secure perfection where unity is required, and we would suggest that the short space of one day or so is hardly sufficient to drill a bayonet exercise, or physical drill team to the highest degree of perfection.

The competitions started at noon on both days, the first on Tuesday in which we had a team entered being the signalling which was decided away from the enclosures on our own *maidan*. In this we had two teams entered, whilst the Buffs and Seaforths each had one. Our first team was an easy first, the Buffs being awarded second place. Of the Native Corps who competed by themselves, the 34th Pioneers were first and the 27th Punjab Infantry next.

Whilst the signalling was in progress the more exciting singlestick, fencing, bayonet *v.* bayonet, sword *v.* lance, and other competitions, for both British and Native Troops was taking place within the enclosure, any dashing play or brilliant bit of horsemanship bringing forth rounds of applause. All the prizes for these events, as far as the British Troops were concerned, went to the Buffs, whilst the representatives of 2-1st and 2-4th Gurkha Rifles and 27th Punjab Infantry were the native champions. Towards the evening, the first tug-of-war tie was pulled, our second team facing the Buffs, and, for a short time, actually having the advantage, which quite excited their coach, Private P. Walker, but the Jullundur team's training told, and our colts had to retire defeated but not disgraced. Two teams of Native Cavalry then competed for the sword exercise, the 18th and 19th Bengal Lancers, and both, in our uninitiated eyes, were perfection; in fact, so excellent were the teams, that the exercises had to be performed a second time by numbers before the judges could decide, and the 18th were eventually declared the better team by only one point.

Transport loading was the next event, for which a team of ours had entered, and they secured second place, the Seaforth Highlanders being first. Our men only lost first place by a very few points and were rather handicapped in having to load from the pouch in delivering their three rapid volleys, the other teams firing from the Magazine. The Artillery driving competition (trotting), which was won by the 46th Field Battery, and the native tug-of-war were about the last events. In the latter, the 19th Bengal Lancers won, the pull being a very amusing one, each man pulling at the rope how and when he liked, and the dead weight at the end discarding the loop and pulling harder than any one.

On the second and last day the final ties for best man-at-arms, Balaclava melée, shifts competition for Royal Artillery, tent-pegging for officers, and feats of horsemanship took place in the early part of the day. The final Tug-of-war between our first team and the Buffs resulted in our men securing a comparatively easy victory. The two best pulls out of three was to decide supremacy, and our team pulled their opponents each time without any very great effort. This result was very gratifying, as the Buffs were not the untrained team that pulled at the Durbar, but had been practising since their return to Jullundur, and were a good team in good training. Our team was also an im-

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provement and the men were in better condition than when they met their reverse.

The physical drill and bayonet exercise competition elicited the greatest interest. The Buffs took both first and second prizes in the former, owing to their vocal accompaniment to the exercises, whilst they were second in the bayonet exercise, the Seaforth being first. Of the Native Corps, the Gurkhas were wonderfully smart, the winning team of 2-1st Gurkhas being perfection and receiving rounds of applause for their display. In the ambulance competitions, we were the winners with the Buffs second. The lance exercise by the 18th and 19th Bengal Lancers was splendidly gone through and most keenly contested by both teams, and it was almost as hard to decide the winners as on the previous day with the sword exercise, but the 18th were again the fortunate ones.

The last on the programme, the distribution of prizes, took place about 6 o'clock in the evening, Lady Frankfort most kindly presenting them to the successful competitors. After the distribution, Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh called for three cheers for her Ladyship which were heartily given, and the playing of the National Anthem by our band, who were in attendance, concluded the proceedings. The following are our prizes with the names of the teams:—

FIRST PRIZES.

Signalling Competition.—Lance-Corporal Rastall and McLachlan, and Privates Hamilton, Amos, Henderson, and W. Johnson.

Tug-of-War.—2nd Lieutenant A. H. Maclean, Sergeant Middleby, and Privates P. Walker, Auld, McAllister, McInnes, Logie, Scott, Goldie, and Brydone.

Ambulance Competition.—Lance-Corporal Robinson and Privates Fowler, Partridge, Donnelly, and Maskell.

SECOND PRIZE.

Transport Loading.—Corporal H. Kerr, and Privates Murray, Goff, Shefford, Hall, Hamilton, Reid (2963), W. Bailey, McKenzie (3525), Wilson (2954), Brown, Mitchell, Elliott, Duncanson, Notman and J. Frankum.

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Football.

—o—

"A" COMPANY have this season secured the Football clock with an unbeaten record, 13 goals being scored against 4. The following is the team that represented the Company throughout the tournament, no change being found necessary.

Goal: Drum-Major Thompson. *Backs*: Privates McCormack and Laven. *Half Backs*: Privates J. Mitchell (3805), Wilson (Captain), and Brown. *Forwards*: McDonald, McManus, Crawford, Scott and Copeland.

Of the matches and general play little can be said; in the match between "A" and "B" Companies, last year's clock holders, unfortunately had two men disabled, Private Fleming breaking his collar bone, whilst Private Green sprained his knee. After losing this match, "B" Company seemed to go to pieces and never played in anything like their proper form. The best exhibition of Football was in the match between "A" and "E" Companies, and the latter can, upon their form, fairly lay claim to second place.

The following are the matches with results:—

"*A*" *Company* v. "*B*" *Company*.—Played on the 14th ultimo. "A" Company 3 goals, "B" Company one goal.
"*C*" *Company* v. "*D*" *Company*.—"C" Company 3 goals, "D" Company *nil*.
"*E*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*.—"E" Company 4 goals, "F" Company 2 goals.
"*G*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*.—"G" Company 3 goals, "H" Company one goal.
"*A*" *Company* v. "*C*" *Company*.—"A" Company 2 goals, "C" Company one goal.
"*B*" *Company* v. "*D*" *Company*.—"B" Company 2 goals, "D" Company *nil*.
"*E*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*.—"E" Company 4 goals, "G" Company one goal.
"*F*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*.—Result. A draw, goals each.
"*A*" *Company* v. "*E*" *Company*.—"A" Company 3 goals, "E" Company one goal.
"*B*" *Company* v. "*F*" *Company*.—"F" Company 1 goal, "B" Company *nil*.
"*A*" *Company* v. "*G*" *Company*.—"A" Company 3 goals, "G" Company one goal.
"*C*" *Company* v. "*E*" *Company*.—First match a draw. Second match, "E" Company 1 goal, "C" Company *nil*.
"*A*" *Company* v. "*D*" *Company*.—"D" Company scratched.
"*A*" *Company* v. "*H*" *Company*.—"H" Company scratched.

The latter matches arranged were never played, six having to be postponed owing to General's Inspection, and, "A" Company carrying all before them, the interest in the tournament flagged, second place never being decided.

FRIENDLIES.

Band (Second Team) v. *Drums*.—Played on the 19th ultimo, the band winning by 4 goals to *nil*.
"*E*" *Company* v. *Detachment (Fort Lahore)*.—Played on the 30th ultimo at Lahore, the visitors winning by one goal to *nil*.
McColls XI "*A*" *Company* v. "*E*" *Company, 2nd XI*.—McColls XI, 3 goals, "E" Company 0.
McColls XI v. "*C*" *Company, 2nd XI*.—McColls XI, 2 goals, "C" Company 0.
McColls XI v. "*G*" *Company, 2nd XI*.—McColls XI, 3 goals, "G" Company 1 goal.

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Correspondence.

—o—

"GEORGE".—Thanks for account of match, but unfortunately cannot publish in full.

"ON THE TACK."—Your article excellent, send more.

———:o:———

Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions from the following:—

Color Sergeant Swan (6 subscriptions).
" " Robertson (2 ").

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HOW TO "QUIFF" THE HILLS

is a matter of indifference to us, but we would advice those going to Dalhousie to become yearly subscribers and so ensure receipt of their copy monthly by friends at home, as last season owing to the limited number issued

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 3.—Vol. II. MIAN MIR,—MARCH 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THERE was a grand parade in review order of all the troops in garrison on the 5th ultimo, the rendevouz being on the *maidan* east of the cantonments, where the brigade formed up under Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, 34th Pioneers, and received General Frankfort, who arrived about noon, with the usual salute. After this the troops formed three sides of a hollow square, ours in quarter-column and the two field batteries forming the front face, whilst the 34th Pioneers were on the left and the 19th Bengal Lancers the right. Lord Frankfort then presented a native officer of the 34th Pioneers, with the Companionship of the Indian Empire for his "long and faithful service," and the troops again formed up and marched past; the Rassaldar remaining at the post of honor, the saluting point.

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A regimental wappenschaw took place on the range on the 8th, 9th and 11th ultimo, the greatest interest being displayed by the battalion in this excellent innovation, and it is to be hoped that its success may cause it to be the forerunner of several similar meetings.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant H. P. Moulton-Barrett has vacated the post of Adjutant which he has held for the space of four years. The Commanding Officer in the following Battalion Order thanked him for the zeal and energy with which he had carried out his duties during that time:—

"On giving up the Adjutancy of the battalion the Commanding Officer wishes to thank Lieutenant H. P. Moulton-Barrett for the assistance he has given him and his predecessor. It is owing to his exertions that the favourable report lately made on the battalion at the recent inspection has been given."

* * * * * *

Lieutenant A. Sutherland has been appointed acting Adjutant pending the confirmation of his appointment to the vacant adjutancy.

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Captain A. F. Mackenzie left for duty at the Depôt on the 15th ultimo, proceeding in charge of invalids and other details. "C" Company, which he has commanded for over four years, in him lose a most popular commander and an officer whom it will be difficult to replace.

* * * * * *

An Edinburgh correspondent writes to the *Aldershot News*:—

"An old friend at Stirling writes me regarding a mark of respect just paid to Quartermaster-Sergeant Beattie at the Depôt of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders there, conjointly by the recipient's military, masonic, and town friends, in view of his promotion to quartermaster to the 2nd Battalion (93rd) in India. Not content with testifying their esteem of Mr. Beattie by the usual complimentary dinner, the presentation of a purse of sovereigns was included in the evening's programme. The company was thoroughly representative of the community, the chairman being one of the shining municipal luminaries of the Sons of the Rock. Mr. Beattie felt his position keenly, and I am informed he came through the trying ordeal with all the dignified bearing so characteristic of the men of the "Thin red line." He is, I ought to say, a 93rd man, and hails, like the esteemed quartermaster of the 72nd, from Aberdeenshire. The sergeants of the Depôt have presented Mr. Beattie with a handsome claymore and Highland belts for same."

* * * * * *

The following is the report on our signallers by the Inspector of Army Signalling:—

"The result of the inspection is satisfactory, there has been a decided improvement since last year. The Assistant Instructor sent a little too fast on Helio: this should be guarded against as it has lowered the figure of merit. Marks were lost in service message work for slight errors caused by over anxiousness. I consider the signallers to be in a thoroughly efficient state, and were it not that some of them had just come out of hospital, I am sure they would have obtained a far better figure of merit."

This report is very gratifying, but to allow of no possible mistake in the future, all the errors pointed out by the Inspector should have special attention paid them, which they no doubt will have, and then we may expect the highest possible results obtainable and something startling in the signalling world.

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Another class for instruction has been formed under Corporal R. Miller to fill vacancies that will occur next year, as no less than six good men will then be time-expired and in all probability will be leaving the battalion.

* * * * * *

By the interest displayed in the Company League Matches, it is easily seen that Cricket is gradually becoming a more popular game in the battalion, which is an excellent sign. Cricket matches, although played in the heat of the day, are now watched with the greatest interest by quite large crowds. and there is no doubt that this year the cricket trophy claims quite as much, if not more attention, than its more ancient rival, the football clock.

* * * * * *

The number of "Thin Red Line" heroes must be gradually decreasing and soon their number will be very limited indeed. Their number has just been decreased by one by the death at Southampton of Mr. William Macfarlane, who served with this regiment through the Crimea and Indian mutiny campaigns, and was for the last 41 years in the service of the late General Sir John Macdonald of Dalchosnie and Dun Alastair, Perthshire. Deceased, who was a native of Crief and enlisted at Stirling, was 59 years of age at his death.

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There was a presentation of honors at the Army Temperance Association Rooms on the 18th ultimo, when the Rev. Mr. Bateson, the General Secretary, was present and made the presentations in addition to an excellent speech.

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The quadrille party given by the Sergeants in their Mess on the 22nd ultimo was as usual another success. Major Grant, who was accompanied by Mrs. Grant, was the only senior officer present, though the subalterns were in force, their welfare being seen to by Color-Sergeant Spedding, who quite surpassed himself as a host. In all about 150 guests were present, though there was a visible diminution after supper, and dancing was continued to an early hour the following morning. Drum-Major Thompson, and Sergeants Sim, Meston, Chaplin and Gunn were the Committee.

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A great amalgamated meeting of the local Good Templars was held in Lucknow Street—'Pride of Sutherland's" Lodge Room—on Saturday, 23rd ultimo, when all the lodges of the station turned up in force.

* * * * * *

Major-General Viscount Frankfort, who shortly vacates command of the district, was entertained to a farewell ball in the Montgomery Hall, Lahore, on the 20th ultimo, by the officers of the Mian Mir Garrison. Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson, 34th Pioneers, during the supper rose and proposed the health of General and Lady Frankfort, and regretted their departure from Mian Mir, to which Lord Frankfort replied, regretting that he was so soon to part from the many comrades and friends that he has made in this country

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Our band and that of the 34th Pioneers was in attendance, whilst four of our sergeants in review order were on duty: each of the other regiments also had representatives as sentries in various parts of the hall, which was most tastefully decorated with trophies of the various arms of the service represented in the district.

* * * * * *

The officers of the battalion also entertained the General to a farewell dinner in the Mess on the 26th ultimo. The guests' health was proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh in appropriate terms, whilst General Frankfort in reply expressed his sorrow in having to vacate the Lahore command and leave the friends he had made in the Ninety-third.

* * * * * *

General Frankfort takes over the Dublin command on the 31st instant, leaving Bombay in the *S. S. Sutlej* on the 4th.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant N. Malcolm has been granted a certificate qualifying him as Regimental Transport Officer and Instructor during peace and Brigade Transport Officer on field service.

* * * * * *

Second Lieutenant A. H. Maclean has passed an examination in Hindustani by the Lower Standard.

* * * * * *

"B" Company have this year secured the Cricket Clock without meeting with a single reverse. "F" Company hold second place and "A" third.

* * * * * *

From the *Aldershot News* :—

"The recruiting party taken to the western isles of Scotland, at the invitation of the Marquis of Lorne, has returned to Aldershot, not without some measure of success. Sergeant-Major Williamson states that the party, which included Sergeant Robertson, made for the island of Tyree but the natives took to their crofts at the unusual sight of a red-coat, even in national garb. The blandishments of Pipers McKie and Mackenzie put, however, a different complexion on matters and dancing to the skirling pipes soon became fashionable, and the visitors were warmly received. One or two likely lads were enlisted, and others will doubtless follow their example."

* * * * * *

Summer clothing has been taken into wear between the hours of 10 A.M. and 5 P.M., and the white linen jacket graces the figure of all men walking out between these hours. The heat during the day is beginning to be extremely oppressive for the time of year, and it is much hotter than when the battalion arrived last February from Umballa.

Reporting Extraordinary.

—o—

(By our Inspired Idiot).

WEDNESDAY, 20th February 1895, was the occasion of a cricket match between the Corporals of the 24th and 46th Field Batteries, R. A., and the Corporals of ours. The most noteworthy features of the above match was the total collapse of the Ninety-third during the first innings and the glorious stand made by Lance-Corporal Smith and Corporal Durnan towards the close of the 2nd innings, by whose united efforts an almost inevitable defeat was averted and a victory gained.

The fielding of Corporals McGragh and Gillett was unparalleled and greatly to be marvelled at: once seen it was impossible to forget it.

On the conclusion of the match (?) all adjourned to the Corporals' Mess, where under the able supervision of Quartermaster Sergeant Rae and Sergeant Campbell a most successful and enjoyable smoker was held.

The following Chinese puzzle has been forwarded by our special correspondent :—

"Toasts."
The Queen.
Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of the Ninety-third Highlanders.
Corporal Gillespie.
Mr. Gladstone.
The Staff of *Truth*.
Mr. Bampbell-Cannerman.
And various others too numerous to mention.

Following a very pleasing selection by the band, Corporal Adams ejaculated "Doo Dah" to the great dismay of all present, upon which Br. Mould, R.A., announced his intention of "Saying no more to Mary Ann," and was promptly told to "Let it be soon" Corporal Hynch then: "Thought of home" in quite an audible think, and also bewailed the unprecedented absence of "Work and Wages."

Pte. Barnard at this stage broke the depressing silence of the evening and a few strings of his mandoline with a selected selection; whereupon Corporal Starks concluded "That it won it," and no one being found venturesome enough to dispute the truth of his remark, he plucking up courage, feebly vociferated, "That's when you feel all right." (This may have applied to the singer but what price the suffering audience—Ed.), Corporal Gillespie complained in piping tones that he was "Still, still in debt," following which, in accordance with a unanimous encore, he obliged with a recitation, entitled "Rats" by (we

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believe) G. R. Sims. Private Barnard stepped forward at this critical moment and saved a few lives by emulating the deeds of Lieutenant Cole. The band then created a disturbance, upon which Corporal Gillett, having been carefully placed on his feet, proved a "Hardish nut to crack" and also announced his unswerving love to "Ould Oirland;" Corporal Inglis then murdered "Disy Bell," and as for Corporal Billman, after shouting vainly for his "Mother to kiss him in his Dreams," he in a dazed and wandered manner added that "He thought she did." Br. Reynolds next appeared with the "Sheeny Man," followed by Pte. Benson with his friends the "Rowdy Bowdy Boys." Then came the charge of the Highland Brigade, which was successfully withstood by the caterer and his staff, and Br. Quest stepped into the arena armed with a few sample of the Mikado (procured we understand at great expense from the victorious Japs).

The band at this point again intruded.

Corporal McGragh now made a beast of himself; Lce.-Corporal Rastall followed with Monte Carlo.

At this point our correspondent appears to have fallen under the table, the copy being completely illegible, and burnt matches, tobacco juice and stumps of cigars being hopelessly mixed up with words that evidently proved too much for him. After many hours of careful study it appears that Jeannie than approached the "Village Blacksmith" with "Poor Old Joe," and notwithstanding "April Showers" sang "Oui La La" (in the *bât*) which was "The song that Broke our Hearts," "I was in" "the Rose of Tralee" asked, in winning style, "Who'll have a drink with me," all complying with avidity; "The ship I love" was listened to, and "Wing Shang Hee" was endured without any lives being lost, and "The country I'm leaving behind" seemed to have terminated this festive scene. According to latest bulletins on the Queen being sung, doolies were requisitioned and all were led, dragged or otherwise conveyed to bed. No report has reached us yet from the hospital, but we believe all are doing well.

At the Fort.

—o—

THE fort detachment was again changed on the 11th ultimo, "F" Company being detailed in relief of "B" Company. The new garrison arrived about 10 o'clock under the command of Lieutenant H. P. Moulton-Barrett, who brought with him Color-Sergeant Lundie, Sergeant Irvine, and the full complement of rank and file to perform the duties.

* * * * * *

Of the new detachment great things were expected in the cricket line, they being last year's clock holders, but with the exception of practise very little has been done. On the 19th ultimo a native team from the city tried conclusions with them, but had to retire defeated by 7 runs after an exciting match. The League being in progress at head-quarters the team have been journeying to Mian Mir pretty frequently, and have succeeded in beating most teams opposed to them, except on the last occasion when they succumbed to "B" Company.

———:o:———

He, She and It.

—o—

He was not so very young,
And not quite a pattern son,
So his father drove him sternly with curses from his door.
Said he, with irate breath,
"Go, and drink yourself to death,
Here's fifty pounds to float you to the unknown evermore."
And he fetched it.

She was young and she was fair,
And her glorious auburn hair,
Shone like gold, or something that was equally as bright.
Her admirer held the pice,
And the locket looked so nice,
So she whispered that she thought—well!—that he really might.
And she fetched it.

A soldier once went sick,
For he thought he knew a trick,
And in hospital he sought a cosy corner bed.
He said, "I cannot stick it,
I'll go in for my ticket,"
And to the Doctor every morn, murmured "Oh my 'ead."
And it fetched it.

MAC.

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"Tippy Dan."

—o—

AN old "Rory" writes to the *Rothesay Express* as follows regarding the anecdote of "Tippy Dan" in our October issue :—.

SIR,—I read with no little interest in your issue of 23rd January an anecdote quoted from the "Thin Red Line," the regimental paper of the old 93rd Highlanders, in which I served both in the Crimea and in the Indian Mutiny. Andrew Fraser was in no mistake a smart soldier, was very particular about his dress, and it is also true that he kept his hair in good order by an unsparing use of pomatum and such things, but I never knew him to be named "Tippy Dan." There was only one "Tippy Dan" in the regiment in my time, and that was "Tippy" Macleod, not Macleod the pipe-major. Andrew Fraser and myself were comrades for some time in the light company of which Dalziel, who was killed at the Relief of Lucknow, was captain. We had a good many Frasers in the old 93rd when we went out to the Crimea. There was, for instance, Colour-Sergeant Fraser, who was known as Beauly Fraser. He did not, however, go out with the regiment. Then there were Simon Fraser, John Fraser, Sandy Fraser, and many other Frasers. The Colonel commanding was W. B. Ainslie who had no nickname, and after him came Colonel A. S. Leith Hay, who was more frequently called "Jock Hay" by the men. On our way to China on the steamship "Mauritius," an incident occurred which gave rise to much amusement at the time. The fourth officer of the ship came to be known as "Water Willie" from the fact that he was in charge of all the stores and fresh water for the use of the troops. Among the men nothing was more common than to hear them pass the word for "Water Willie," until at last the officer, to whom it was applied, became quite irritated and determined to bear it no longer. So he went upon deck one day to where the Colonel and other officers were moving about, and lodged a complaint about our men calling him "Water Willie." The Colonel received his complaint with the utmost good humour, and said, pointing to the Adjutant (MacBean), a distinguished officer who had risen from the ranks—"Do you see that gentleman standing there "Yes," replied the man. "Well," says the Colonel, "all the men call him 'Paddy,' and they call me 'Jock Hay' so you needn't be surprised at them calling you 'Water Willie.'" With this good-natured reply "Water Willie" collapsed and no more complaints were heard from him.

"Paddy" MacBean has gone to the majority now, but, as far as I knew, Colonel Hay is still in the land of the living. I was on the same detachment near Varna in Turkey when MacBean received his commission. He was at that time Col.-Sergeant of No. 2 Company, and he was very reluctant to accept the promotion, but he ultimately yielded to the persuasion of the Captain of his company, Cathcart. MacBean was left at Varna in charge of depôt formed there, but he soon joined the regiment at the seat of war in the Crimea.

Many little anecdotes connected with the regiment have been recalled to my memory through reading the one about Pipe-Major Macleod and Andrew Fraser. As I have already mentioned, we embarked for China, but on our way there the ship calling at Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, for orders, we found that our route had been cancelled and that we were to proceed to Calcutta with all possible speed, the Indian Mutiny having broken out subsequent to our embarkation. We reached Calcutta on 20th September, 1857, and lay off to be taken by the flat-bottomed boats to a place called Chinchuria on the opposite side of the river. While preparing to disembark, who should be the first man to step on board but Sir Colin Campbell. Of course, every one was taken by surprise to see the old chief there, as he had no intention of going out again when we left home. We gave him a hearty three cheers, and the occasion being the anniversary of the Battle of the Alma the enthusiasm among the men was very great. He cordially welcomed us, and in a few words said we were to get ready and go up the country as our services were greatly needed, and that our comrades, the 78th Highlanders, were in front. Little did we think when he parted with us at the close of the Crimean campaign and when he penned that famous farewell address to the Highland Brigade, that we should meet him again so soon in a still more distant land. I have a recollection of some lines penned for the occasion, and which ran something like this :—

"Ye gallant warriors of the north,
Ye who from Scotland have come forth
To fight the battles of the free,
And tell the nations o'er the sea
Ye have come from bonny Scotland.
The chief himself is at your head,
And he will make the rebels feel
Who are the men that Campbell leads
Ere ye gang back to Scotland."

Rothesay, 28-1-05. AN OLD "RORY."

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Regimental Wappenschaw.

—o—

A REGIMENTAL wappenschaw, the first in the battalion since we have been in this country, was held on the ranges here, commencing on the 8th ultimo, and owing to the number of entries not concluding until late on the evening of 11th, the programme, for which Sergeant Symcox was answerable, was an excellent one, there being individual matches at all distances and for all classes of shots, whilst the importance of volley firing was not forgotten. In all cases the prizes were most substantial, and there is not the least doubt that rifle matches of this kind would become very popular in the battalion. Taking into consideration the improvement that would result in the battalion figure of merit owing to the continual practice, a wappenschaw is well worth the trouble and expense, and no better way could be found for disposing of any surplus funds there may be in hand.

The following are the matches with the prize winners :—

MATCH I.—200 YARDS.

Lance-Corporal Hansen,	"A" Company	...	1
Private Latchford,	"G" ,,	...	2
Lance-Corporal Starling,	"E" ,,	...	3

MATCH II.—300 YARDS.

Private Geegan,	"E" Company	...	1
,, McKay,	"E" ,,	...	2
,, Regan,	"G" ,,	...	3
Lance-Corporal Hansen,	"A" ,,	...	4
Sergeant Dunkeld,	"G" ,,	...	5
Lance-Corporal Potter,	"D" ,,	...	6
Private Blackwood,	"C" ,,	...	7
,, Mackie,	"H" ,,	...	8
,, Gadd,	"D" ,,	...	9

MATCH III.—500 YARDS.

Sergeant Smith,	"D" Company	...	1
Private Welch,	"G" ,,	...	2
Sergeant Symcox,	"A" ,,	...	3
Corporal Arnott,	"A" ,,	...	4
,, Watters,	"C" ,,	...	5
Private Willcocks,	"A" ,,	...	6
Lance-Sergeant Hanson,	"D" ,,	...	7
Lance-Corporal Franks,	"G" ,,	...	8
Sergeant Dunkeld,	"G" ,,	...	9
Corporal Beavis,	"G" ,,	...	10
Private Kelly,	"A"	...	11

MATCH IV.

Drum-Major Thompson,	"A" Company	...	1
Sergeant Hay,	"A" ,,	...	2
,, Symcox,	"A" ,,	...	3
,, Irvine,	"F" ,,	...	4
Private Mackie,	"H" ,,	...	5
,, Rankin,	"D" ,,	...	6
Corporal Arnott,	"A" ,,	...	7
Lance-Corporal Walsh,	"G" ,,	...	8
Private Wallace,	"G" ,,	...	9
,, Brown,	"G" ,,	...	10

MATCH V.—ALL COMERS.

200, 500 & 600 YARDS.

Sergeant Hay,	"A" Company	...	1
Drum-Major Thompson,	"A" ,,	...	2
Sergeant Symcox,	"A" ,,	...	3
Private Brown,	"G" ,,	...	4
,, Emmett,	"G" ,,	...	5
,, Brown,	"C" ,,	...	6
Color-Sergt. Robertson,	"E" ,,	...	7
Lance-Sergt. Goodwin,	"D" ,,	...	8
Sergeant Smith,	"D" ,,	...	9
Private Brotherston,	"G" ,,	...	10
Lance-Corporal Hansen,	"A" ,,	...	11
Private McKinness,	"B" ,,	...	12
,, Sullivan,	"A" ,,	...	13
,, Mitchell,	"A" ,,	...	14
Corporal Stobbie,	"G" ,,	...	15
Lance-Sergeant Hanson,	"D" ,,	...	16
Sergeant Dunkeld,	"G" ,,	...	17
Lance-Corporal Franks,	"G" ,,	...	18

REVOLVER MATCH.—30 YARDS.

Sergeant Hay,	"A" Company	...	1
2nd Lieutenant Hyslop,	"G" ,,	...	2
Drum-Major Thompson,	"A" ,,	...	3

TEAM SHOOTING.

Volley Firing—400 *Yards.*

"E" Company Team—Color Sergeant Robertson		...	1
"H" ,, ,, —Sergeant Stubbs		...	2

Independent Firing—300 *Yards.*

Band Team—Corporal Watters		...	1
"F" Company Team—Sergeant Irvine		...	2
"D" ,, ,, —Sergeant Sim		...	3

RUNNING PRACTICE—600 TO 300 YARDS.

"D" Company Team—Sergeant Sim		...	1

POOL.

200 *Yards.*

Sergeant Hay,	"A" Company	... Bull's-Eyes 1

300 *Yards.*

Corporal Arnott,	"A" Company	... Bull's-Eyes 1

500 *Yards.*

Private Brown,	"C" Company	... Bull's-Eyes 2

ALL COMERS.

Lieut. H. P. Moulton-Barrett,	"F" Company	... Bull's-Eyes 1
Private Brown,	"C" Company	... Bull's-Eyes 1

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Temperance Notes.

—o—

Independent Order of Rechabites.

DURING the past month "Excelsior" tent of the I. O. R. has celebrated the first anniversary of its institution. On Saturday evening, 16th February, the members and their friends assembled in the "Rechabite" Hall, and having partaken of an excellent tea, the remainder of the evening was devoted to social intercourse and entertainment. Where each strove to do his best, it is difficult to award the palm; suffice it to say, that each item on the programme was carefully rendered; and as the clock proclaimed the near approach of the midnight hour, the company rose, and after singing the "Queen," in tones that proclaimed their loyalty, and also the fact that no Rechabite suffers of lung disease, dispersed to their various homes, expressing the hope that many anniversaries may be the lot of "Excelsior" Tent No. 190.

The officers and members still continue energetic, losing no opportunity of bringing their Order and its aims before the public, and it is to be hoped that the success of the past twelve months may be repeated, and that the 16th February, 1896, may see them still flourishing.

ARMY TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

Visit of the General Secretary.

The Revd. A. H. Bateson, General Secretary of the Association, paid the Regimental branch his annual visit on the 18th ultimo, the occasion being celebrated by a general meeting. A tea was originally to have taken place, but this was abandoned, and the Revd. Mr. Bateson opened the meeting in the usual way and afterwards gave an excellent temperance address, in which he proved conclusively to his hearers the advantage of non-intoxicating beverages over alcoholic liquors, especially in this tropical climate. The Rev. gentleman then presented the medals and other honors to those entitled to them, of which a list follows:—

Three Years' Medals.—Drum-Major Thompson, Sergeant Soutar, Corporals Johnstone, Stobbie, Reid and Scott, Lance-Corporals Rankin, Harvey and Pagon, Piper Murray, Drummer Hughes, Bandsmen Burns, Brown and Crawford, and Privates Greenland, Finch, Mathieson, Dodds, Maskell, Pake, Ault, Ingles, Artlett, Buckland, Chilton, Choularton, Irwin, G. Watson, Brindley and Kitchener.

Two Years' Bars.—Drum-Major Thompson, Drummer Hughes, and Privates McLean, Cassidy, Mahoney, Mathieson, Dunlop, Maskell, Galbraith, Dudgeon, Short, Welch, Elliott, Grant, Binns Golding, Leighton and Milne.

One Year's Medals.—Bandsmen Bracy and White, Drummer Buchanan, and Privates Lane, Dunsmore, Smith, Minnel and Learmont.

Cruikshank Badges (Six months' honors).—Lance-Corporals Ward and Williams, Bandsmen Hayward, Hall and McArthur, Drummer McRae, and Privates Newlan, Robertson, Dobson, McGee, Thomas, McKenzie, Sellars, Hamilton, Duncan and McLellan.

Silver Rings (Ex-Office Bearers).—Lance-Corporal Rankin, Bandsman Crawford, and Privates Ault, Chilton, Choularton, Short, Lyons, Hill and Dodds.

After the honors had been distributed, the election of officers for the Dalhousie branch took place: Private Mathieson being elected President; Bandsman Crawford, Honorary Secretary, and Drum-Major Thompson, Honorary Treasurer, and an amusement committee also chosen. After this, the general business of the branch was freely discussed, and the Honorary Secretary, Corporal Johnstone, to whom a vote of thanks was proposed, was highly complimented by the Revd. Mr. Bateson for the admirable way in which he had tided over the difficulties that had beset him on his appointment and the excellent way in which all things were managed. Corporal Johnstone, in reply, modestly depreciated his own value, and said that had it not been for the President, Corporal W. Miller, it would have been impossible to have conducted things as they had been done, and therefore, he proposed that Corporal Miller should also receive a vote of thanks in recognition of his services for the Association, which was unanimously carried.

After a few songs and recitations, the evening concluded with a vote of thanks to the Revd. Mr. Bateson for his kindness in presiding, and three hearty cheers were given him before leaving: "God save the Queen" being sung about half-past ten.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

An amalgamated session of Good Templars was held on Saturday evening, 23rd February, in the Good Templars' Hall, Lucknow Street: there was a large attendance, the various Lodges in the station being well represented. The session was called to order and opened with the usual ceremonies by Bro. Holloway, Chief Templar of "Perseverance and Hope" Lodge

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at 7-30 P.M. The doors were then thrown open, and Bro. Crawford called upon to open the programme with a recitation. After him followed Bros. Brand, Short, Pake, Starrs and Johnstone, with songs, &c.; and then came the event of the evening, a speech on Good Templars' Degrees, by Bro. Holloway, Station Lecturer. The speaker handled his subject in a masterful manner and created an excellent impression on his hearers. This was again followed by songs and recitations from Bros. Short, Gifford, Crawford, Robertson Grant, Brand, Irwin, Watson and Friend Hynch, and a few words of excellent advice by Bro. Tydeman brought to a close a most enjoyable evening—one that will long be cherished in the minds of all who were present.

———— :o: ————

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

That the Regimental Wappenschaw is an excellent innovation.

That one company got nearly all the prizes.

That perhaps it was arranged especially for their benefit.

That it didn't shoot itself.

That it has lost its Adjutant.

Le Roi est mort, Vive le Roi.

That the Orderly Officer found himself in strange places for a few days.

That "C" Company have suffered a great loss in their Captain.

That it will be a long time before they get his equal.

That cricket has been in full swing.

That it has been too warm for playing during the day.

That the umpires should study the rules a little more.

That "B" Company have not had a reverse.

That "F" Company never expected to be beaten by 93 runs.

That the regimental number is evidently a lucky one for some.

That "A" Company think more of winning than of playing cricket.

That all their good intentions were fruitless.

That there has been nothing but farewells.

That another, more or less, wouldn't matter much.

That the General is leaving.

That Dublin will be an improvement upon Mian Mir.

That the band lost their lemonade at a dance.

That the 34th Pioneers must have been thirsty.

That the band are still expected to live on air.

That they enjoy playing at the Club.

That they get *pani* there unlimited.

That it isn't boiled, however.

That it hasn't got its "grey back" yet.

That its getting "socks" instead.

That it walks out in white.

That range-finding is a popular recreation of the Sergeants

That a Color-Sergeant attended the dance in fancy dress.

That two gallons of beer is rather a good "eye opener."

That a sergeant has joined the ranks of the benedicts.

———— :o: ————

Farewell Dinner to Major-General Viscount Frankfort.

—o—

ON Wednesday evening, the 27th ultimo, the officers of our Battalion entertained General Viscount Frankfort at a farewell dinner at the Mess. A large number of the officers of the Garrison were invited to meet him. After the toast of "The Queen" Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh rose to propose the General's health. He said,—"Gentlemen, I am sure you will receive the toast I am about to propose in the most cordial manner. I call upon you all to join me in drinking to the health, happiness and prosperity of our General, Lord Frankfort, (loud cheers) who is about to leave us.

"I am sure I am expressing the feeling of every officer in the district when I say his departure is a matter of general regret. (Hear, hear, and cheering). He is about to take over command of the Dublin district, and I can only say that our loss is their gain. (Applause). Gentlemen, I ask you to drink to the health of General Viscount Frankfort with 'Highland Honours.'"

The toast was drunk with full Highland honours amid great enthusiasm, after which "For he's a jolly good fellow!" was sung with a vigour which must have tried the roof considerably.

The General, who was evidently much gratified by the warmth of feeling displayed, rose to reply amidst loud cheers. He said: "Colonel Fetherstonhaugh and officers of the 93rd Highlanders, I feel deeply grateful to you for the kind way in which the toast of my health has been proposed and responded to. It is a long time ago since I first met the regiment in the Crimea. It has been a great pleasure to me to have had them in my command. Our relations have always been agreeable and my recollections of the regiment will always be pleasant. Gentlemen, I thank you once more for your kindness (loud cheers)."

The pipers then played "Happy we've been the gither." A very pleasant evening was spent and the party did not break up till a late hour.

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Regimental Gazette.

EXTRACTS FROM LONDON GAZETTE.

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders). Lieutenant H. P. Moulton-Barrett, on completion of his period of service as Adjutant, has vacated that appointment. Dated 15th January 1895.

Captain C. F. H. Davidson is seconded for service on the Staff, Dated 7th November 1895.

PROMOTIONS.

The following promotion has been made:—

To be Corporal.—No. 3230 Lance-Corporal Chapman "A" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Corporals—No. 1588 Private H. McPake and No. 4653 Private S. Fearn "F" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 2858 Private J. Fawkes "D" Company, and No. 2987, Private D. McDonald, "H" Company.

To be Acting Drummers.—No. 2145 Private W. Learmont, "A" Company, No. 4211 Private B. Brown, and No. 2768 Private W. McRae, "H" Company.

To be Bandsmen.—No. 3530, Private T. Hickman, "H" Company, and No. 3665 Private A. Brotherstone, "G" Company.

To be Pack Store Sergeant.—No. 3116 Sergeant W. Weller, "G" Company, "A" and "B" Sections, British Field Hospital, Waziristan Field Force.

EMPLOYMENT.

In Tailor's Shop—No. 4317 Private W. Renwick, "F" Company.

In Armourer's Shop.—No. 3640 Private L. McCarthy, "G" Company.

In Orderly Room.— No. 3230 Corpl. Chapman, "G" Company, and No. 3809 Private G. Watson, "A" Company, as Assistant Clerks.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years with the Colors.—No. 1994 Sergeant R. Mitchell, "F" Company.

To complete 12 years.—No. 2994 Lance-Sergeant J. Stewart, "F" Company, and No. 3746 Drummer W. Brown, "C" Company.

TRANSFERS.

To 2nd Batt. Wiltshire Regiment.—No. 3526 Corporal H. Stimson, "G" Company.

From "E" to "F" Company.—No. 4584 Pioneer W. McLachlan,

From "A" to "G" Company.—No. 3230 Corporal Chapman.

NUMBER.

Allotted Number.—Boy W. Fogg, "E" Company, No. 5340.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following have been granted 2d. per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 1580 Private C. Brasenell | No. 2947 Private W. Drysdale.
No. 3079 Private A. Wallace.

The following has been restored 2d. per diem:—

"E" Company.

No. 1525 Private P. Grant.

The following have been granted 1d. per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 4370 Private D. McGee. | No. 4620 Private J. Fleming.
„ 4846 „ W. Bracey. | „ 4161 „ H. Stadams.
No. 4597 Private W. Wiseley.

"G" Company.

No. 4590 T. Kelley, | No. 4677 Private D. Gibson.

"H" Company.

No. 4682 Private A. Gray. | 4698 Private J. McIntyre.
„ 4593 W. Livingstone.

The following have been restored 1d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 3844 Private J. Scott. | No. 3822 Private H. Patton.

"B" Company.

No. 2461 Private J. Green. | No. 3515 Private R. Sutherland.

"D" Company.

No. 3402 Private P. O'Donnell. | No. 3383 Private A. Stewart.

"F" Company.

No. 2923 Private J. Murray.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

Passed Part I.—No. 3809 Private G. Watson, "A" Company and No. 2809 Bandsman T. Lyons, "E" Company.

Extra Subject—French.—No. 4269 Lance-Corporal F. Frossanges, "E" Company.

INVALIDS.

The following have been transferred home as invalids:—

No.	2808	Sergeant J. Souter.	No.	705	Arm. Sgt. Smallwood.
„	2854	Lce-Corpl. G. Sutherland.	„	3132	Corpl. H. Reid.
„	2992	Lce-Corpl. R. McBean.	„	1588	Private B. Dalton.
„	4245	Private W. Beckett.	„	2795	„ J. Moncrieff.
„	2921	„ E. Glasgow.	„	4179	„ C. Outram.
„	4337	„ W. Smith.	„	3397	„ F. Williamson
„	4282	„ C. Smith.	„	3018	„ J. McCall.
„	5020	„ D. Munro.	„	2851	„ J. McQueen.
„	4245	„ S. Goudie.	„	3249	„ W. Carter.
„	3417	„ D. Parker.	„	3946	„ T. Wilson.
„	3620	„ T. Giles.	„	4140	„ J. Dormer.
„	4599	„ T. Kelly.	„	3438	„ T. Armstrong
„	2678	„ J. Bean.	„	2457	„ G. Knox.
„	2523	„ J. Nicholson.	„	3752	„ H. Kranz.
„	3517	„ T. Garland.	„	3897	„ J. Stevenson.
„	3727	„ A. Motton.	„	1541	„ J. Sellars.
			„	3582	„ W. Brogan.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

CASUALS.

			£	s.	d.
No.	370	Lance-Sergeant W. Goodwin, "D" Company	0	14	6
„	4183	Private J. Burke, "D" Company	0	11	6
„	3687	„ F. Rankin "D" „	0	8	6
„	2985	„ J. Dudgeon "D" „	0	6	2½
„	3261	Corporal E. Rose "H" „	0	5	0
„	2032	Sergeant R. Sim "D" „	0	5	4½
„	1580	Private C. Brasenell "B" „	0	9	0½
„	2982	„ J. Forbes "F" „	0	5	3

TRANSPORT CERTIFICATES.

The following have been granted Transport Certificates qualifying them for Regimental Transport Assistants and Assistant Instructors during peace and Transport Sergeants on Field Service:—

"A" Company.—No. 3063 Private R. Wardrope.
"B" Company.—No. 3077 Corporal C. Johnstone.
"C" Company.—No. 3088 Lance-Corporal A. Kettles.

BIRTH.

Irvine.—At Mian Mir, on the 19th January 1895, the wife of No. 932 Sergeant J. Irvine of a son—James Forbes.

MARRIAGE.

Maxwell—Rome.—At St. Andrew's Church, Bombay, on the 27th ultimo, by the Rev. A. Watson, Presbyterian Chaplain, Pioneer Sergeant W. Maxwell, Ninety-third Highlanders, to Nellie, eldest daughter of Mr. John Rome, Nethertown, Dumfries.

DEATH.

Macfarlane.—At the Royal Infirmary, Southampton, on the 5th January 1895, William Macfarlane, late Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders, aged 59.

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He walked to the wicket as blythe as a cricket,
His actions and style were real grand,
But the very first ball caused his wicket to fall,
And he murmured "well I'll be—blest."

———— :O: ————

Cricket.

—o—

This year the Cricket League season, though a short one, has elicited a considerable amount of interest, and it is easily to be seen that this queen of sport is rapidly becoming more popular in the battalion. Like Football, however, Cricket was rushed through, two matches being played nearly every day, and on this account several fixtures were scratched owing to companies not being able to find teams fit to represent them, and it is to be hoped that next season more time will be given. Every Thursday and Saturday would be quite often enough for matches to take place, the teams would then have time to settle down, the players would become better acquainted with each other, and would not, because a severe reverse had perhaps been sustained, lose heart and scratch to a company that might with a little practice have easily been beaten: this season, after the first match or two, owing to conduct of this kind, the result of the league virtually lay between three companies.

Another little detail that might be attended to in the future is that umpires should be thoroughly versed in the rules of the game. It seems curious, but is nevertheless a fact, that several players of repute, who have undertaken this responsible position, appear to have been totally ignorant of even the rudimentary laws of Cricket, and on this account some truly marvellous decisions have been arrived at. No doubt by next season, however, these little details will have been attended to and the laws of Cricket as laid down by the Marelybone Club well digested by those who undertake the duty of umpire.

Of the play in general little can be said; last year's clock-holders started the favourites and had comparatively easy victories until their last match, when they met "B" Company and went to pieces in a most unaccountable way. "B" Company played consistently, although they never did anything phenomenal, and thoroughly deserve their position: they were fortunate enough to be able to play nearly the same team throughout, and the eleven thus became thoroughly acquainted with each other. "A" Company played some good games, though they were never to be depended upon, and although they did their utmost to lower the champion's colors their efforts proved ineffectual. Of the other Companies "D" certainly deserve credit for the sportsman-like way in which they have played their ties, and it is to be hoped that they may have better luck in the results of the future. The play of the four remaining companies calls for very little comment, "G," as last year, scratching nearly all their matches.

The following are the league matches with full scores :—

"A" COMPANY v. "H" COMPANY.

Won by "A" Company by 74 runs. Scores.—"*H*" *Company.*—Private Huckle 0, Lance-Corporal Hunter 0, Lieutenant Tweedie 20, Private Keeble 11, Corporal Olden 1, Privates Shipman 1, Devereux 0, Sergeant Jackson 7* Private Pearson 0, McGregor 14, Newland 0, Extras 5, Total 59. "*A*" *Company.*—Sergeant Symcox 63, Bandsman Willcocks 2, Privates McColl 3, McDonald 13, Allcock 0, Drum-Major Thompson 16, Private Dunmore 3, Grant 16, McLellan 6, Bandsman Crawford 2, Private Smith 3*, Extras 6, Total 133.

"B" COMPANY v "C" COMPANY.

Won by "B" Company by 16 runs, "C" declared their second innings closed with 7 wickets down. Scores.—"*C*" *Company.*—Private Brown 3, 12, Corporal Watters 4, 0, Private Johnson 3, 0, 2nd Lieutenant Graham 0, 1, Private Baker 0, 15*, 2nd Lieutenant Stewart 3, 2, Privates Inglis 5, 5, Mahoney 1, 24, Docherty 1, McLean 0, 0*, Cowan 1, Extras 1, 1, Totals 22, 60. "*B*" *Company.*—Privat Singleton 8, 2, Corporal Miller 5, 1, Lieutenant Patten 2, 0, Private Milne 7, 0, Lance-Sergeant Stonor 7, 8, Corporal Brown 2, 3, Bandsman Lillywhite 1, 2, Lance-Corporal Crichton 3, 0, Private Partridge 2, 19, Whitecross 0*, 5, Russell 0, 4*, Extras 13, 2, Totals 50, 46.

"F" COMPANY v. "G" COMPANY.

Won by the former by 44 runs on the first innings. Scores.—"*F*" *Company.*—Private Atherton 0, 17*, Webster 10, Renwick 0, 23*, Farley 4, 7, McLaren 4, 23, Wilson 1, Hunt 1, 0, Holloway 0, Amos 14, Adamson 12, Adams 1*, Extras 9, 3, Totals 56, 73 (for 3 wickets). "*G*" *Company.*—Private Doyle 0, Carroll, 0, Corporal Hynch 1, Private McKay 1, Mayze 0, McIntosh 1, Holt 1, Corporal Beavis 4, Private Irwin 2, Regan 0*, Extras 2, Total 12.

"B" COMPANY v. "E" COMPANY.

Won by "B" Company by 43 runs. Scores—"*E*" *Company.*—Sergeant Peggie 4, Private Jacks 0, Gosling 3, Morton 2, Ogden 0, Groves 23, Petrie 0, Lance-Corporal Rastall 7, Private Hill 3, Miller 1, Fraser 1*, Extras 9, Total 54. "*B*" *Company.*—Private Singleton 13, Corporal Miller 0, Lieutenant Patten 0, Lance-Sergeant Stonor 12, Lance-Corporal Crichton 22, Private Milne 0, Partridge 7, Lillywhite 0, Green 6, Whitecross 0, Russell 0*, Extras 13, Total 197.

"A" COMPANY v. "F" COMPANY.

Won by last year's champions by 16 runs. Scores.—"*F*" *Company.* Private Renwick 0, 24, Adamson 2, 9, Adams 1, 1*, McLaren 16, 0, Farley 6, 4, Webster 4, 11, Hunt 0, 0, Atherton 10, 0, Brockwell 14, 4, Amos 3, 1, Wilson 0*, 0. Extras 0, 1, Total 56, 55. "*A*" *Company.*—Private Willcocks 1, 5, Allcock 21, 19, McColl 0, 0, McDonald 5, 16, Sergeant Symcox 6, 1, Drum-Major Thomson 0, 1, Lance-Corporal Hansen 0, 4, Private McLellan 5, 1, Grant 0, 2*, Adams 0, 1, Crawford 1*, 3, Extras 1, 2, Totals 46, 55.

"C" COMPANY v "H" COMPANY.

Won by "C" Company by 65 runs. Scores.—"*C*" *Company.*—Private Brown 51, 10, Johnson 5, 3, Lance-Corporal Kettles 12, 0, Corporal Watters 11, 1, 2nd Lieutenant Graham 15, 3, Private Shepherd 4, 1, Mahoney 4, 14, Inglis 0, 4*, McLean 1, 0, Campbell 0*, 0, Extras 1, 0, Totals 104, 41. "*H*" *Company.*—Private Scar 10, 4, Devereux 7, 0, Lieutenant Tweedie 25, 2, Private Keeble 0, 0, Shipman 2, 8, Sergeant Jackson 2, 0, Private Pearson 0, 0, Duncan 2*, 0, Corporal Rose 2, 0*, Private Newland 0, 0, Glossop 0, 1, Extras 3, 5, Totals 53, 27.

* Signifies "not out."

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"D" COMPANY *v* "E" COMPANY.

Won by "D" Company by 32 runs. Scores—"*D*" *Company*.—Lance-Corporal Smith 0, 0, Private Taylor 6, 16, Rankin, 4, 4, Stevenson 0, 27, Sewell 13, 10, Grozier 0, 19, Downie 0, 16, Burns 0, 0, Corporal Durnan 1, 1, Private Duff 4, 0, Hall 2*, 0*, Extras 11, 6, Totals 41, 99. "*E*" *Company*.—Privates Ogden 0, 33, Gosling 2, 4, Jacks 11, 17, Gowans 12, 0, Lance-Corporal Fressanges 5*, 0, Lance-Corporal Rastall 2, 0, Private Hill 0, 4, Fraser 3, 0, Wellington 2, 0 Duncan 0, 0*, Extras 2, 3, Totals 40, 68.

"A" COMPANY *v* "D" COMPANY.

An easy win for the former by 117 runs. Scores—"*D*" *Company*.—Private Taylor 2, Rankin 2, Allan 3, Downie 5, Lance-Corporal Smith 0, Private McKenzie 5, Sewall 9, Chapman 14, Stevenson 5*, Burns 0, Hall 0, Extras 3, Total 48. "*A*" *Company*.—Sergeant Symcox 3, Private McDonald 10, McLellan 12, Allcock 54, 54, Crawford 0, Kelly 1, Adams 1, Ballie 2, McColl 9, Willcocks 58*, Drum-Major Thompson 0, Extras 5, Total 165.

"C" COMPANY *v.* "F" COMPANY.

"F" won by 52 runs. Scores.—"*F*" *Company*.—Private Farley 3, Atherton 23, McLaren 45, Webster 0, Renwick 3, Hunt 11, Adamson 2, Amos 1, Halloway 0*, Adams 0, Murray 3, Extras 6, Total 97. "*C*" *Company*, Corporal Watters 5, Private Brown 0, Lance Corporal Kettles 8, Private Shepperd 5, 2nd Lieutenant Graham 15, 2nd Lieutenant Stewart 0, Private Mahoney 8, Inglis 0, Docherty 0, Cowan 0*, McLean 0, Extras 4, Total 45.

"A" COMPANY *v.* "B" COMPANY.

Supposed to be a tie the last batsman of "B" Company being given out for "obstructing the field" as he accidently knocked his wicket down whilst the winning run was being made. Scores.—"*A*" *Company*.—Private Allcock 6, Willcocks 44, Munn 0, McLellan 17, Kelly 3, Adams 0, Crawford 0, McColl 0, Rushman 0, Sergeant Symcox 1, Drum-Major Thompson 2*, Extras 4, Total 77. "*B*" *Company*.—Private Singleton 13, Lieutenant Patten 14, Lance-Sergeant Stonor 4, Private Milne 6, Corporal Miller 5. Lance-Corporal Crichton 19, Private Partridge 0, Corporal Brown 2, Private Green 7, Lillywhite 4*, Russell 1, Extras 2, Total 77.

"A" COMPANY *v.* "C" COMPANY.

Another tie, both sides scoring 88 runs. Scores—"*C*" *Company*.—Private Brown 6, Johnson 0, Mahoney 3, Lieutenant Graham 9, Corporal Watters 29, Private Inglis 0, Docherty 10, McLean 0, Young 13, Lascelles 8,* Campbell 5, Extras 5, Total 88. "*A*" *Company*.—Drum-Major Thompson 17, Sergeant Symcox 6, Private Allcock 15, Crawford 5. Willcocks 24, McColl 5, McLellan 3, Johnson 3, Adams 3, Sullivan 0,* Greenwood 0, Extras 7, Total 88.

"B" COMPANY *v.* "D" COMPANY.

The former won by 31 runs. Scores.—"*B*" *Company* Lance-Sergeant Stonor 8, Private Singleton 6, Milne 22, Green, 0, Lillywhite 0, Lance-Corporal Crichton 6, Private Patridge 3, Brand 0, Corporal Brown 3, Corporal Miller 1, Private Russell 3, Extras 6, Total 58. "*D*" *Company*.—Lance-Corporal Smith 3, Private Rankin 2, Stevenson 1, Taylor 2, Downie 13*, Allan Sewell 0, Chapman 1, Grozier 0. Burns 0, Jenkins 0, Extras 5, Total 27.

"F" COMPANY *v.* "H" COMPANY.

An easy win for "F" Company by 110 runs. Scores.—"*F*" *Company*.—Private Farley 5, Hunt 4, Atherton 54*, Renwick 45, McLaren 0, Webster 17, Adamson 0, Amos 0, Adams 0, Holloway 0, Wilson 7, Extras 22, Total 154. "*H*" *Company*.—Sergeant Jackson 0, Private Devereux 6, Lieutenant Tweedie 0, Private Keeble 10, Corporal Rose 4, Private Newland 2, McGregor 8, Duncan 6, Sear 3, McMullen 0, Corporal Olden 0, Extras 5, Total 44.

"B" COMPANY *v.* "F" COMPANY.

Resulted in a very easy win for "B" Company by 93 runs on the first innings. Scores.—"F" *Company*, Private Atherton 4, 14, Adamson 1, 0, Renwick 12, 43*, McLaren 1, 18, Farely 2, 8, Webster 0, 0, Holloway, 0, 0, Adams 4, 0, Wilson 2, 0, Murray 3, 6, McWilliams 1*, 0, Extras 3, 13, Totals 35, 96. "*B*" *Company*.—Private Singleton 9, Corporal Miller 0, Lance-Sergeant Stonor 38, Lieutenant Patten 38, Corporal Brown 0, Private Milne 10, Lance-Corporal Crichton 8, Private Lillywhite 0, Green 0, Partridge 0, Russell 0, Extras 23, Total 128.

"A" COMPANY *v.* "B" COMPANY.

This match was finally decided on the 25th ultimo. "B" Company winning by 4 runs and 4 wickets. Scores.—"*A*" *Company*.—Private Willcocks 29, McDonald 1, Allcock 0, McCall 0, 2, Drum-Major Thompson 14, Private McLellan 4, Munn 3, Wardrope 0, Grant 2*, Sergeant Symcox 1, Baillie 0, Extras 2, Total 58. "*B*" *Company* Corporal Miller 2, Private Singleton 5, Lance-Sergeant Stonor 15, Lieutenant Patten 11, Lance-Corporal Chrichton 4, Corporal Brown 3, Private Milne 6,* Partridge 15,* Extras 1, Total for 6 wickets 62.

Result of the League.

	Matches played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Points.
"B" Company ...	8	7	0	1	14
"F" " ...	7	6	1	0	12
"A" " ...	8	4	2	2	8
"C" " ...	7	3	3	1	6
"D" " ...	7	3	4	0	6
"E" " ...	7	2	5	0	4
"H" " ...	7	2	5	0	4
"G" " ...	7	0	7	0	0

He walked without flurry, or unusual hurry.
And posed like a "pro." or a "toff."
He said "umpire I beg, give me centre and leg."
But the ball took the bail of the "off."

———— :o: ————

Football.

—o—

RIGHT HALF BATTALION *v.* THE DRAFT (LIFEBUOYS).

This match resulted in an easy win for the battalion players by 5 goals to *nil*, the draft not playing up to expectations.

TEAMS.—Right Half Battalion. *Goal* Private Whitecross ("B"); *Backs* Private Gordon ("D") and Lance-Corporal McKimm ("B"); *Half Backs* Privates Singleton ("B") Wilson ("A") and Brown ("A"); *Forwards* Privates Denholm ("B"), Sturgess ("C"), Corporal Watters ("C"), and Privates McManus ("A") and Crawford ("A"). Draft. *Goal* Private McDougall ("A"); *Backs* Privates Scott ("B") and Watson ("F"); *Half Backs* Privates Benson ("G"), Kelley ("G"), Brown ("A"); *Forwards* Privates McAulay ("G") Clarke ("E") Rae ("F"), Burke ("H"), and Millar ("E").

RIGHT HALF BATTALION *v.* LEFT HALF BATTALION.

Played on the 23rd ultimo, resulting in a win for the Right Half Battalion by one goal to *nil*.

TEAMS—Right Half. *Goal* Private Whitecross ("B"), *Backs* Lance-Corporal McKimm ("B") and Private Scott ("B"); *Half Backs* Privates Singleton ("B") Wilson ("A") and Mitchell ("A"); *Forwards* Privates Duffin ("B") Sturgess ("C"), Corporal Watters, ("C"), and Privates McManus ("A") and Crawford ("A") Left Half. *Goal* Private Murray ("F"), *Backs* Privates Watson ("F") and Brown ("C"); *Half Backs* Privates McGregor ("H"), Mathieson ("E") and McLaren ("F"); *Forwards* Privates McAulay, ("G"), Reid ("G"), Clarke ("E") Millar ("E") and Burke ("H").

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RIGHT HALF BATTALION *v.* REST CAMP (ROYAL SCOTS FUSILIERS.)

On the 26th ultimo a team composed chiefly of "A" and "B" Company players opposed a team from the Rest Camp, a draft of Scots Fusiliers proceeding to Sialkote, and proved themselves victorious by three goals to *nil*. The team was as follows :—

Goal Private Whitecross ("B"), *Backs* Private Scott ("B") and McCormack ("A") *Half Backs* Lance-Corporal McKimm ("B") ; Privates Wilson ("A") and Mitchell ("A") ; *Forwards* Privates McDonald ("A"), McManus ("A"), Sturgess ("C") Scott ("A") and Duffin ("B").

"*Band* (*2nd XI*) v. "*B*" *Company* (*2nd XI*). Scores.—Band 4 goals, "B" Company 2 goals.

Band (*2nd XI*) v. *Drums* (*Return Match*), Scores.—Band 5 goals, Drums one.

—:o:—

Quoits.

—o—

Privates Brown and Cullen for Rs. 100.—On Saturday, the 16th February, Private Samuel Brown, "A" Company, and Private Robert Cullen, "E" Company, played a match at quoits for Rs. 50 aside, the spot selected for the heads being opposite "B" Company's bungalow. After the first five or six shots, it was evident that Brown would win, which he eventually did, defeating his opponent by 36 points. The majority of those who saw Cullen play were under the impression that his quoits were much too heavy for him. Privates Elliott and McCall "A" Company, looked well after Brown, while Privates Cossar and McGregor, "H" Company, attended Cullen. Private Coutts, "B" Company, was referee.

Brown.—1 0 0 2 0 0 2 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 2 1 0 0 0 0 1
2 1 1 0 0 0 2 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 2 1 0 1 1 2 1 0 1 1 2 1
1 0 1 2 1 1 0 2 2 1 1 2 2 1 0 1 1 2 2=61.

Cullen.—0 1 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 2 1 2 1 0
0 0 0 2 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0
0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0=25.

Privates Brown and Cossar for Rs. 200.—This match was the outcome of the previous one. It was originally tied to be played at 21 yards (Brown's best distance), but Cossar paid forfeit, and it was agreed to play at 18 yards, 61 up, the game to be played on Thursday, the 28th February. The excitement at no time was very great, as after the first three heads, Brown took the lead, which he never lost, and ran out a winner by the comfortable majority of 32 points. "Kirkcaldy" was in the hands of the same men as in the former game, while Cossar was papered in by Coutts. Private Young, "G" Company, officiated as referee.

Brown —0 0 0 0 2 1 1 1 2 2 1 2 1 2 0 2 1 1 1 0 0
0 0 1 0 1 0 1 2 2 2 1 2 1 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 2 0 2 2
1 1 1 1 2 1 2 1 2 0 0 0 0 1 1 2 0 0 1 1=61.

Cossar.—2 2 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 2 2
1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 2 2 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0=29.

THE ORIGIN OF FOOTBALL.—According to Stewart Culin, the Curator of the Museum of Archæology of the University of Pennsylvania, football originated with those beginners of everything, the Chinese. Mr. Culin is making an exhaustive study of games, ancient and modern, and has a curious and ancient drawing showing a personage in the dress of a Prime Minister playing football with a Kuge or noble, and two of their Chamberlains. The time is somewhere in the tenth or eleventh century, but long before then the game was cultivated as an exercise suitable for the training of soldiers. About the eighth century it was introduced into Japan, where it became very popular. From these two countries it spread over the entire world.

—:o:—

Subscriptions.

—o—

WE beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions for one year from the following :—

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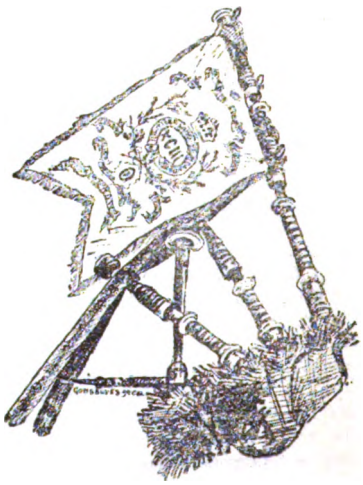
2nd Lieutenant W. G. P. Murray (29th Punjab Infantry).
Armourer Sergeant A. Smallwood.
Corporal H. Stimson (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
President, Sergeants' Mess, 4/A. and S. H.
Corporal C. Johnstone.
Lance-Sergeant A. MacDonald (2 subscriptions).
Private Artlett (6 half-yearly).



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XCIII

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No. 4.—Vol. II. MIAN MIR,—APRIL 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE ranges here are hardly as safe as they might be, especially when field firing is practised. A serious accident might have occurred whilst "B" Company were firing long range volleys on the 1st ultimo, some bullets careering over the mantlet and striking a battery of artillery who were on a road behind the butts. Fortunately the casualties were nothing more serious than a cut saddle, though a spent bullet or two fell amongst the wheels of the guns.

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"B" Company have started a Company Shooting Club with a committee of management composed of Privates McInnes, Whitecross, and D. C. Macgregor.

General Viscount Frankfort left Mian Mir on the evening of the 4th ultimo for Bombay en-route to Dublin.

All the officers of the Mian Mir Garrison were present on the platform to bid their late chief farewell and *bon voyage;* our band and that of the 34th Pioneers were on the platform and played "Auld Lang Syne" as the train left the station.

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The following farewell order was published:—

"Major-General Viscount Frankfort, on giving up the command of the Lahore District, wishes to express to all ranks of the Army and Volunteers his entire satisfaction with their soldierlike conduct and bearing during the time he has been in command of the District, and he bids them all farewell."

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The annual camp of exercise of the Lahore Volunteers was concluded on Saturday, 9th ultimo, with a field day and march past, the usual sports being held on the previous Monday and Thursday. As last year a party of 150 rank and file of ours under Major Grant operated against these warriors, whose motto is defence not defiance, true to which they occupied a position and ours attacked with vigor, though with

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what result is not known. After the field day, which was concluded about six o'clock, refreshments were provided by the Volunteers for those whose exertions had made them thirsty.

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According to the *Toronto World*, that city has lost one of her leading citizens by the death, at the age of 77, of Mr. Alexander Smith, who went to Canada in 1837 as a Private in the Ninety-third. Leaving the regiment in the following year he settled down to a successful commercial career, and for the last 40 years was actively identified with public life in the city, for four years representing "East Toronto" in the Dominion Parliament. He in 1855 raised the renowned Company of Highland Rifles, which he commanded until their incorporation with the Queen's Own. Mr. Smith, like so many members of the old Ninety-third, was an Aberdonian, having been born at Moneymuch in Aberdeen in the year 1818.

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At Jullundur, on the 9th ultimo, 2nd Lieutenants R. B. Graham and P. D. McCandlish passed the examination in subjects (*a*) and (*b*) for promotion.

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Captain R. L'E. McKerrell has proceeded home on twelve months' leave of absence.

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Color-Sergeant Wright, who left the battalion last January to take up an appointment as Sergeant Instructor of Volunteers, has been appointed Sergeant-Major to our First Volunteer Battalion at Greenock (1st Renfrewshire.)

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The Inspector of Gymnasia paid Mian Mir a visit on Monday, 11th ultimo, and saw "D" and "G" Companies at the physical drill, whilst he also visited the gymnasium and inspected the last draft. On the following day Colonel Hill, A. A. G. for Musketry, inspected the battalion and saw it put through several movements for the development of fire discipline by the second in command, adjutant and senior officers.

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The draft which left Aldershot on the 6th February under Captain E. B. Urmston arrived by train from Jhansi, where they had been detained owing to a supposed case of cholera, on the night of 13th, detraining at the Rest-camp abont 10-30 P.M. They then marched to the coffee shop and regaled themselves after their journey, previous to which they were told off to their various companies, the left half battalion again getting the larger share. Owing no doubt to their number they have been designated by themselves the "Forty thieves."

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The greatest excitement prevailed on the 16th ultimo owing to the orders of that date postponing the move of the left wing to the hills. This was found necessary on account of the mobilisation of the 1st Division for a demonstration against Chitral, where Umra Khan has been making himself objectionable for a considerable time.

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Owing to the number of battalions passing through Mian Mir for the front, or in relief of regiments proceeding to Nowshera and Peshawar, the Rest-camp has been full of troops, both native and British, and reveillé has been sounded at most unexpected and curious hours. Canvas capable of accommodating several regiments has sprung up round the more permanent Rest-camp, and the battalion has been most busily employed in pitching these tents.

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"A" and "C" Companies have both completed their military training course for 1895, being inspected by the second in command on the 18th ultimo.

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Corporal W. McNab is battalion shot this year, the competition having been decided on the range on Monday, 18th ultimo.

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On arriving from England with the last draft, Captain Urmston took over command of his old Company, "H," which he left at Umballa over two years ago to join the depôt for duty.

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"H" Company are the fortunate possessors of a couple of clocks—one presented by Captain Urmston and the other by Lieutenant Tweedie—which are competed for quarterly by football and cricket teams from the right and left half companies respectively.

On Tuesday, 19th ultimo, Lieutenant Tweedie's clock was competed for by the cricket teams, and the right half, who were winners last quarter, were again successful and proved their superiority by winning by five runs. On the following day the football teams competed for Captain Urmston's trophy, and in this the left half were victorious and won by three goals to *nil*.

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The two quartermasters were guests at the mess on the night of Monday, 25th ultimo, when our retiring quartermaster, Honorary Captain S. Forbes, was bade farewell to by the officers prior to his departure for home. Captain Forbes has severed his connection with the battalion after thirty-one years' service in our ranks, and it must certainly be with very mixed feelings that he leaves to join his family in Edinburgh. *The Thin Red Line*, however, will do its best to keep him in touch with his old corps, and no doubt its receipt month by month will do much towards this.

Captain and Quartermaster Sinclair Forbes was born at Latheron in Caithness on the 11th February 1845, and is consequently in his 51st year. He enlisted in 1864, and proceeded to India to join the battalion in July 1865, and went home with it in 1870: was in Gibraltar during the stay of the battalion there in the years 1879-80-81. In November 1891 the battalion left for India, and Captain Forbes landed for a second time in this country in December of the same year, and has remained just over four years to his retirement.

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Lieutenant and Quartermaster Beattie, who is to be congratulated upon his promotion, is an Aberdonian, hailing from Glenbucket in that country. Lieutenant Beattie came out from home with the last draft, and has at the present time just over twenty years' service, a considerable portion of which has been spent at the depôt at Stirling: however, like the late quartermaster, he is a Ninety-third's man, joining the battalion as he did in November 1874 and remaining with it until June 1886, when he was posted to the depôt as Quartermaster Sergeant.

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By the death of Color-Sergeant Bell, who enlisted as far back as 1828, the regiment must have lost one of its oldest veterans. His demise is chronicled in the *John O'Groat Journal* of the 1st March, which says:—

This most respected citizen died on Thursday, 14th ultimo, and by his death the village of Halkirk has lost a most honourable man who, for over thirty years, had so creditably filled the position of governor of the Combination Poor-house there. He was an elder in the Established Church, and suitable reference as to the manner in which he discharged the duties of the office, and the esteem in which he was held by the congregation, was made by the Rev. Mr. Candlish at the close of the sermon on Sabbath last. William Bell was a native of Kinross, and was born on the 11th March 1811. A handloom weaver by trade, he enlisted in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders about the year 1828 or '29, and joined the headquarters in the West Indies shortly afterwards, where the regiment was stationed until 1834. After leaving the West Indies he returned along with the regiment to Europe on the 6th of May of that year, and went to Canterbury and then to Wedon. In 1835 they went to Blackburn, and from thence to Liverpool. In 1836 they went to Dunblane, in 1837 to Belfast, and in 1838 to Cork. Leaving Cork in 1838, they went to Canada, where they remained till the 1st August 1848. Arriving back at Portsmouth, they proceeded to Stirling Castle, which was reached on the 31st of the same month, and remained there till 5th April 1850, when they were removed to Edinburgh Castle. Colour-Sergeant Wm. Bell was there discharged to pension in June or July 1850, after serving with the regiment in all the abovenamed places. On his retirement he received the medal for good conduct and long service, and a pension of 2*s*. per day. He was a non-commissioned officer who was very highly respected by every one in the regiment, from the commanding officer downwards; and was considered one of the best duty sergeants in connection with it. The late Colonel M. M'Bean (who was a comrade sergeant of his, and promoted from the ranks) used to speak of him as a true friend and the best N.-C. officer he ever knew.

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After he was discharged he was appointed governor of the Poor-house at Tain, where he remained till 1861, when he removed to Halkirk as governor of the Thurso Combination Poor-house, which appointment he held till the 14th December 1892, when he resigned on account of failing health. He then went and resided in the village of Halkirk till he died, as already stated, on 14th February 1895, at the age of nearly 84 years. It is interesting to note that he was succeeded in the governorship by one who had the same rank in the same regiment in the person of Col.-Sergeant G. Sorrie, late of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, and who for nineteen years acted efficiently as sergeant-instructor of the Thurso (G) Coy. of the 1st Sutherland Highland Rifle Volunteers

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Bandmaster W. H. Davies has joined the battalion from the Kneller Hall School of Music.

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The band are jubilant. They succeeded in beating "B" Company at cricket after a very good game by 24 runs.

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Sergeant R. McConnell has been appointed 1st Class Sergeant Insructor to St. Michael's School Cadet Corps at Bankipur, for which place he left on the 1st instant.

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Drum-Major Thomson has left us to join the Seventy-eighth Seaforth Highlanders, in which regiment his father served, transferring on re-engagement. Drum-Major Thomson will be greatly missed in the battalion, for in addition to marching at its head he was one of the best shots and a first-class cricketer and football player, and an active participator in all its manly sports.

Tae the Auld Wife.

—o—

MA DEAR MITHER,

Its a gey lang time sin I wrote ye last, hoos a wi ye?

Ye'll, nae doubt, be pleased tae hear that I'm a richt, tho' I'll no say but that I hae had a touch or twa o' fever and ague and sich like.

We had some gran' carryings on here durin' the Durbar. tho' it was awfu' wearyin stannin' aboot a' day in the sun.

Hogmanay wi me wis gey quiet. I got yae bottle o' whuskey and first-fitted ma twa chums in oor schule, and they haeing a bottle each, first-fitted me, so we did no sae bad. On Ne'ers day we had a gran' spread in the bungalow, and tho' the greens and tautties wis cauld and the fowls teugh, and the puddin' fell tae pieces, there wis plenty o' beer, so it wis a great success.

General's Inspection wis na sae bad, but the General ta'en the wrang hauf battalion for the doublin' and a wheen feli oot.

We hae had some gran' fechtin' oot here lately, and oor battalion, thro' the medium o' a sargint and a private wis connected wi the expedition agin' the Waziris, its a peety they didna tak mair o' us.

We hae a' been in a state o' fearfu' excitement, as an order cam oot that we were na tae gang tae the hills this year, sae we thocht that we micht be for the front, but I'm fearin' we're tae be left oot in the cauld as weel in this Oomra Khan's, or whativer the man ca's hisel affair. He maun be an awfu daft like body, yet ye ken mither thae Afghans can fecht like the verra deil. I expect hooever ye ken naethin aboot meelitairy maitters, sae I'll jist explain.

It appears tae me that the Governor of Chitral—some methar or ither—got poisoned, and that this chap Oomra wanted tae be Governor, or reign in his stead as the auld meenister wad pit it, and the folk o' the place didna mind. Weel we hae a man there tae settle a' these things, and as he's hemmed in by Oomra's men, we hae tae get him oot and that's a' aboot it. Ae puir officer an'

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his pairty hae been cut up, sae we're sendin aboot 14,000 troops tae explain maitters, and I hope Oomra wull see the point afore its a' ower, deed they should jist smother him, no that I hae ony personal spite agin him mysel.

The latest rumour noo is that we're gaun tae the hills sometime, but dae ye ken mither the country camels are awfu' scarce noo and there's no' a mule tae be had; of course this year the left half wull gang up.

Puir Jock McBouncer I'm thinkin mither it'll be a lang time afore he talks tae me o' fitba' agin.

Noo wi best love tae Rab, Tibbie, and the bairns.

Believe me,
Your lovin' son,
JOCK.

P.S.—The socks ye sent are near wore oot.

:o:

"C" Company's Shooting Club.

—o—

(FOURTH MEETING).

THE fourth meeting of "C" Company's Shooting Club took place on the ranges on Thursday, 7th March. Owing to the heat shooting commenced at 7 A.M., and all had to be off the range by 9 o'clock: this necessitated another visit in the afternoon, when shooting continued until it was nearly dusk and all those competing had finished firing. The total amount of money distributed in prizes amounted to Rs. 110, Captain Mackenzie giving Rs. 20 in addition to Rs. 90 from the Club funds. Altogether the meeting must be considered a very successful one. The following are the prize winners according to their various classification—

MATCH I. MARKSMEN 300 AND 500 YARDS.

Private	A. Grosvenor	1
"	J. Brown	2
"	A. Casey	3

MATCH II. 1ST CLASS.

Private	G. Lawson	1
Corporal	A. Watters	2
Private	D. McColl	3
"	C. Shepherd	4
"	G. Ritchie	5
"	J. Johnson	6
"	J. Farrell	7
Drummer	R. Gracie	8
Private	C. Anderson	9
"	G. Artlett	10

MATCH III. 2ND CLASS.

Private	J. Blackwood	1
"	C. Stewart	2
Corporal	W. Melville	3
Private	J. Lessells	4
"	R. Watson	5
Lance-Corpl.	A. Kettles	6
"	W. McLachlan	7
Private	W. Hewlett	8
"	J. McIntyre	9
"	J. Bird	10
"	J. Cowan	11
"	C. Stewart	12

MATCH IV. 3RD CLASS.

Private	T. Cassidy	1
"	C. Loughlin	2

The Regimental Shot.

—o—

ON Monday, 18th ultimo, the two best shots of each company competed on the range for the supremacy of the battalion, the following assembling at the firing point 7 A.M.:—

Privates J. Mitchell (3042) and T. Dunmore represented "A" Company, Lance-Corporal Bell being in hospital; Privates E. Lillywhite (4050) and A. Kerr, "B" Company; Corporal W. Miller and Private J. Brown (2773), "C" Company; Privates D. Gillan and H. Smith, "D" Company; Corporal W. McNab and Private F. Morton, "E" Company; Lance-Sergeant J. Stewart and Corporal J. Ewan, "F" Company; Lance-Corporal J. Walsh and Private G. Emmett, "G" Company; and Privates A. Thompson and T. Adkins, "H" Company.

In the competition last year only three distances were fixed at 200, 300 and 500 yards, but this year 600 and 700 yards were added. Seven shots were fired at each distance, the second and third distances being rapid.

Firing commenced about 7 A.M., and at the first distance Private Brown, "C" Company, last year's champion, was leading, having registered 25 points against 23 by Private Emmett and 22 by Corporal McNab: at the rapid distances however the former lost ground, and McNab with two scores of 21 tied with Emmett for the aggregate at 500 yards. At 600 McNab again led, though at the final distance Brown looked like being successful; after getting five bull's-eyes, however, his last shot resulted in an inner only, and Corporal W. McNab was declared best shot in the battalion for the year 1895.

The following are the scores of the first three:—

	200 yards.	300 yds.	500 yds.
Corpl. W. McNab	3 4 2 3 4 4 2—22	21	21
Private J. Brown	2 4 4 4 4 3 4—25	16	21
" G. Emmett	2 2 4 4 3 4 4—23	21	20

	600 yards.	700 yards.	
Corpl. W. McNab	4 3 2 4 2 4 3—22	2 2 3 3 4 4 3—21	—107
Pte. J. Brown	0 3 4 3 3 4 4—21	0 4 4 4 4 4 3—23	—106
" G. Emmett	2 2 0 R 3 2 3—12	0 4 2 2 2 4 4—18	— 94

The Manager is anxious to purchase any copies, in good condition, of No. IV, Vol. I, dated April 1894. Any readers having any of this number and not requiring the same will kindly communicate with the Manager as the copies are required for binding.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT "B" Company evidently intend going in for the "shield."

That as a preliminary they have formed a Rifle Club.

That several inspections have taken place.

That they have all passed off satisfactorily.

That the "forty thieves" arrived about midnight.

That the hour was quite appropriate.

That it has lost its pipe-clay sponge.

That the new "topies" are not an improvement.

That it was a quite a month of "Gaffs."

That it hopes the band have recouped their losses.

That they had capital houses.

That "Joey" was a great success.

That "Sandy" wasn't far behind.

That it heard the complaint of the time expired.

That it sympathised.

That "Villikins and his Dinah" was better than ever.

That it was most certainly a "Regimental" gaff.

That "when the cats away, the mice will play."

That it thought it was for the front.

That it found it was only for fatigue.

That hospitality seems to be on the wane in the Sergeants mess.

That the rest-camp is evidently too far away for it.

That several more changes have occurred.

That it has a new Quartermaster.

That it has lost nothing avoirdupois.

That the new Bandmaster has also arrived.

That it wishes its late Drum Major good luck.

That it envies him.

That tennis is very fashionable in the Sergeants' Mess.

That a tennisonian has indulged in a new pair of flannel trews.

That the last draft have a curious idea of dress regulations.

That they think spats give a finished appearance to khaki.

That at any rate they are original.

That the A. T. A. has again suffered.

That the thieves must be fond of decorations.

That "T. B. T. B." is the latest on the "barrel."

That this step costs over 10 rupees.

An Awful Experience.

—o—

THE sun shone fiercely down on us as we stood in hollow square surrounded by a horde of yelling natives, many of whom were armed with the Martini-Henry rifle and kept pouring volley after volley into us, only ceasing at intervals, to allow their spearmen to charge the square with fanatical fury. Well do I remember those spears and the ugly wounds they inflict.

It is no exaggeration to say that we were standing kneedeep in blood: our rifles were so hot that we could hardly hold them, whilst the magazines were useless, being clogged with sand.

Early in the engagement I was wounded slightly in the shoulder, and an hour later my chum, good old honest Hector, fell by my side. It was a question of time. Could we but hold out but another half-hour reinforcements might arrive. We had expected to be reinforced on the previous day, as, owing to the disturbed state of the country we were passing through, orders had been issued to strengthen our party. But when would they arrive?

Our square had grown smaller and smaller, and now we numbered barely thirty men capable of standing and handling a rifle—and even many of these were more or less wounded.

Our officer said: "Men fight to the last; while there's life there is hope. There was no reply, but the firm compressed lips and the determined expression on every countenance spoke volumes. Our ammunition was almost spent. We knew the end was not far off, when a glad shout proclaimed that the long expected relief had come, and over the crest of a hill we saw a strong company approaching. With a growl of disappointment the niggers drew sullenly off, and we realised that all danger for the present was over. The first thing I did was to look for Hector, whose body I found under several others—and to my joy—I saw that he was breathing, though unconscious. Dashing some water over his face he opened his eyes in a dazed manner; then sitting up he expressed his conviction that he had no bones broken, but had only been stunned. Alas! I knew differently, for just over his heart I noticed the small bullet hole that there was no mistaking. I mentioned my fears to Hector, when suddenly a light broke over his countenance. "Saved, saved!" he cried; "I put it here before we started, it could not be merely by chance." So saying he drew forth from inside his khaki jacket, not his mother's well thumbed bible —no! nor a lock of his loved one's hair!—only a coffee shop sandwich, on opening which we discovered the bullet flattened against the meat.

MAC.

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Tommy Atkins.

—o—

(With apologies to Rudyard Kipling.)

In time o' peace 'e aint no bloomin' good,
Wiv 'aughty scorn they allus pass 'im by;
But w'en the cannon is a-roarin',
An' the shot like rain is pourin',
An' Tommy for 'is Queen 'as got ter die,
Its then they come an' pat 'im on the back
An' tell 'im of the world 'e is the pride,
W'en the enemy 'e's bravin'
An' 'is country's 'onour savin,'
They only thinks o' savin' o' their hide.

Oh! Tommy, Tommy Atkins,
You're a "wallah," so you are,
Let those who long to fight you,
A "tora khubadhar,"
For you'll surely knock their stuffin' out
If they but 'ave a try,
But you'd never knuckle under,
For I know you'd rather die.

'E's a man wots got a 'eart as true as steel,
W'en wars alarms re-echo thro' the land,
An' w'en the bugle is a-blowin,'
An' ter the front the troops is going,
They praise 'im an' they shakes 'im by the 'and,
But w'en the battle's fought an' dearly won,
An' the field is strewn wiv many a dead recruity,
W'en the enemy's retreatin'
An' the drum it ceases beatin',
They tells 'im 'e 'as only done 'is dooty.

If Umra Khan thinks fit ter "bobbery" be,
Now 'e 's got the griffin that 'e 'as ter walk,
An' if 'e don't obey the order,
An' sling 'is 'ook across the border,
Why, Tommy will be on 'im like an 'awk,
An' w'en the maxim guns are in position,
You take my tip, 'e'll fairly make things hum,
So trot 'em up by dozens,
Fathers, sons, an' cousins,
An' 'e 'll blow the blessed lot ter "kingdom come."

Oh! Tommy, Tommy Atkins,
You're a "wallah," so you are,
Let Umra Khan, the bold Afghan,
A "tora khubadhar,"
For you'll surely knock 'is stuffin' out,
An' make 'is niggers fly,
But you'd never knuckle under,
For I know you'd rather die.

NADYA.

Sir Colin Campbell's Address to the Highland Brigade.

—o—

THE following is the address made by Sir Colin to the Highland Brigade at the close of the Crimean Campaign, mentioned by "an Old Rory" in last month's number:—

"Soldiers of the 42nd, 79th, and 93rd! Old Highland Brigade, with whom I have passed the early and perilous part of this war, I have now to take leave of you. In a few hours I shall be on board ship, never to see you again as a body. A long farewell! I am now old, and shall not be called to serve any more, and nothing will remain to me but the memory of my campaigns, and of the enduring, hardy, generous soldiers with whom I have been associated, whose name and glory will long be kept alive in the hearts of our countrymen. When you go home, as you gradually fulfil your term of service, each to his family and his cottage, you will tell the story of your immortal advance in that victorious echelon up the heights of Alma, and of the Old Brigadier who led you and loved you so well. Your children and your children's children will repeat the tale to other generations when only a few lines of history will remain to record all the enthusiasm and discipline which have borne you so stoutly to the end of this war.

Our native land will never forget the name of the Highland Brigade, and in some future war that nation will call for another one to equal this, which it can never surpass. Though I shall be gone, the thought of you will go with me wherever I may be, and cheer my old age with a glorious recollection of dangers confronted and hardships endured. A pipe will never sound near me without carrying me back to the bright days when I was at your head and wore the bonnet which you gained for me, and the honourable decorations on my breast, many of which I owe to your conduct. Brave soldiers, kind comrades, farewell!"

—:o:—

Theatrical.

—o—

BAND DRAMATIC CLUB.

THE band gave a most successful performance in the theatre on the evenings of the 6th and 7th March, its excellence drawing crowded houses on both nights. The following was the programme:—

PART I.

1. *Song* ... ... "The Blind Irish Girl."
BANDSMAN J. BENSON.

Song and Dance ... "Down where the pretty blue bells grow."
PRIVATES CLARKE AND NEWLAND.

3. *Song (original)* ... ... "Time Ex."
BANDSMAN J. BROWN.

4. *Song* ... ... "Work and Wages."
CORPORAL T. HYNCH.

5. *Song* ... ... "Bunk-a-doodle I do."
BANDSMAN T. LYONS.

6. *Mandoline and Banjo Duet* ... ...
BANDSMAN BENSON AND PRIVATE BARNARD.

7. *Duet*... ... ... "The Angels have called him home."
BANDSMEN J. BROWN AND T. LYONS.

PART II.

8. *Song* ... ... "The Ship I love."
CORPORAL T. HYNCH.

9. *Negro Song and Dance* ... ... "Where the flowerets grow."
PRIVATE CLARKE.

10. *Ventriloquism* ... ... "Private Barnard."

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WAGNER OUT-WAGGED.

CHARACTERS.

Professor Sheepskin ... ... Bandsman W. Farley.
(*Of the Theatre Royal, Little Fiddlem.*)

Slippery Bob ... (*Stage Mis-Manager*) Bandsman J. Brown.
Mr. Rosinbow ... (*Leader of the Band*) Lce-Cpl. J. Walsh.
Piratical Baron ... . Bandsman E. Fell.
Edgardo ... (*The Village Tenor*) Bandsman J. Benson.
Baron Bunhillrow... ... .. Bandsman F. Mackey.
Razorini ... ... (*A Stage Assassin*) Bandsman T. Lyons.
Madame Squallini... (*Prima Donna*) Bandsman W. Walker.
Flutist ... W. Willcocks Cornet ... W. Cripps.
Clarinets ... J. Denholm and R. Crawford ...Bass T. Hickman.
Guards ... Bandsmen G. Stratford and J. Dunlop.
Waiters and Robbers.

INCIDENTAL MUSIC.

Song ... ... "I'm going to be a professional." J. Brown.
March ... ... "Wagner Out-Wagged." The Band
Duet ... ... "Night Birds Cooing." J. Benson and W. Walker.
Song ... ... "Drink Boys." T. Lyons.
Finale ... ... Company.
(*Music arranged by Bandsman T. Lyons.*)

THE BIJOU COMPANY.

The Bijou Company paid our Regimental Theatre a visit on the 11th and 12th March, and well deserved the good houses which patronised them each night.

The entertainment was of a decidedly novel character, and consisted of conjuring, sleight-of-hand, &c., by Mr. Canaris, and some very good songs by Miss O. Beaumont.

A truly marvellous man is Canaris, and performs all his tricks with great neatness and finish.

He seems to do what he likes with anything—gathers rupees from the heads of men known to be stone-broke; borrows a handkerchief, tears it into small strips, cooks those carefully for a few seconds and then returns the handkerchief intact to its owner. One trick well worth seeing he performed with a small bird, which flew on being liberated into the lap of a lady of the audience, who nursed it so carefully that it died, notwithstanding which Mr. Canaris fell back on an orange which he peeled, thereby disclosing a lemon, inside of which was an egg, and when the egg was opened, *mirabile dictu*, which, being interpreted (wonderful to relate) the little dicky bird flew out safe and sound. I saw it, so if you don't believe, go and see him next time you get the chance. It is impossible to enumerate all his tricks, but what he does is done well. The well-known bell-ringing and banjo-banging cabinet tricks was also included amongst his performances.

Miss O. Beaumont who travels with Mr. Canaris is the possessor of a most wonderful voice, and changes it at will from a clear soprano to a rich and powerful baritone: in fact many of the audience believed that "she" was a "he."

As I was successful in snatching a hasty breakfast—I beg pardon, I mean a hasty interview (which was cut short by the Provost-Sergeant) with Mr. Canaris and Miss Beaumont on board their tum-tum—I can assure all such sceptics that Miss Beaumont is really what she professes to be; and without doubt the Bijou Company is the best one of its kind that I have yet seen in India.

"VILLIKINS AND HIS DINAH."

On the evenings of the 18th and 19th March our old friends "Villikins and the unfortunate Dinah" re-appeared on the boards of our Regimental Theatre, preceded on each occasion by "Waxination Gratis," which seemed to go somewhat flat, though all worked hard.

The caste for "Villikins" was the same as before, but the performances of everyone were decidedly improved, the songs were up to date, and the way that Dinah planted down her "daisy-crushers" in the mazy dance, was something to be wondered at and admired. Villikins surpassed himself in the high-kicking line, whilst the playful and agile Baron's appearance was the signal for rounds of applause.

Last, but not least, was Gruffin—good old Gruffin—"who came up with his little lot on a bicycle made for two."

Judging from the appearances of the houses on the two nights, we feel sure that we can congratulate them on a success both financially and otherwise.

:o:

The machine seemed as though 'a,
It dated from Noah,
And the "tat" that was in it looked rum,
And the dirt and the rust,
To say nothing of dust,
Completed a Mian Mir "tum-tum."

:o:

Cricket.

—o—

Band v. "B" Company.

A MATCH between these teams took place on the afternoons of Thursday and Friday, 28th and 29th ultimo, play commencing soon after 4 p.m. on each day, and after an interesting game the band proved themselves victorious by 24 runs. In the first innings of the band, Corporal Brown played a capital innings of 32 not out. In the band's second innings, Private Russell was most successful with the ball, taking six wickets for a very few runs, five being clean bowled, whilst for the band, Sergeant Peggie and Private Farley bowled throughout.

Band.—Private Brotherston, ("G") 0, 3; Corporal Watters, ("C") 7, 4; Private Willcocks, ("A") 6, 0; Corporal Brown, ("B") 32* 2; Private Farley ("F") 4, 5; Denholm ("B") 7, 0; Lillywhite ("B") 0, 3; Sergeant Peggie ("E") 2, 0; Private Burns ("D") 3, 8*; Chidley ("B") 4, 7; Ward ("C") 0, 0. Extras, 13 12; totals 81, 45.

"*B*" *Company.*—Private Singleton 3, 9; Corporal Miller, 2, 2; Lance-Sergeant Stonor 11, 5; Private Milne, 4, 2; Horan 11, 7; Lance-Corporal Crichton, 0, 5; Private Brand, 0, 0; Partridge, 0, 3; Macgregor, 6, 4*; Russell, 1, 7; Green, 0, 5. Extras, 6, 4; totals 44, 58.

:o:

Football.

—o—

"*A*" *Company* v. *Lahore.*—Played on the Aitchison Chiefs' College ground on Thursday, the 14th March, and resulted in a win for "A" Company by 3 goals to 1. The feature of the game was the splendid goal keeping for Lahore.

On Thursday, the 28th March, a return match was played between the same Clubs, a slight alteration being effected in the composition of both teams. Lahore was decidedly weaker than on the previous occasion, as their goal-keeper was absent from their ranks. A somewhat tame game resulted in a win for "A" Company by 3 goals to *nil*.

"C" Company also played against Lahore, but the civilian team was victorious by 1 goal to *nil*.

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The Army A. B. C.

—o—

FOR YOUNG SOLDIERS.

A is the "Army" as you are aware,
B is the "Book" by which we all swear.
C the "Canteen," where we go when we can;
D for "Defaulter," and also for "Dan."
E "Elevation" in musketry named,
F for "Fixed Sight," a phrase somewhat famed.
G "G. C. Badges," which your characters prove,
H is for "Halt," after which not a move.
I stands for "Infantry" who require good feet;
J stands for "Jam," either a cartridge, or sweet.
K is the "Kilt" which the Highlanders don,
L is the "Language" sometimes rather strong.
M stands for "Musketry," so important a drill;
N is the "Noodle" who can't hit even a hill.
O? why "Ord'ly Room" where offenders are tried,
P is the "Prisoner" who has just been inside.
Q stands for "Questions" you must answer or fall,
R is the "Rifle" so familiar to all.
S is for "Steady" in voice loud and clear;
T is for "Teddy," which sometimes you hear.
U stands for "Umpire" whose work is not slack,
V the "Valise" that we wear on our back.
W for "War" which we long for in vain,
X t'is impossible to fit to a name.
Y stands for "Yield," a term we don't use;
Z is the "Zeal" that inspired this muse. MAC.

———: o :———

Rest Camp Notes.

—o—

MIAN MIR Rest-camp has been full of life and bustle during the last fortnight owing to the mobilization of the 1st Division for the Chitral Relief Expedition, and all the canvas that could be procured was pitched by us for the accommodation of the troops passing through to the front. The staff of the 3rd Infantry Brigade, General Gatacre and staff, was the first to leave Miān Mir, doing so by special fast train on the 25th ult., though a wing of the 12th Bengal Infantry had passed on the 18th. The Seaforth Highlanders from Ferozepore followed on the 26th, arriving by half battalions, and resting for one hour, during which time our pipers played up and down the platform. Our officers had refreshments on the ground for the officers of the Seaforths. Our old comrades of the Highland Brigade were 801 strong proceeding on the expedition and belong to the 3rd Brigade. On the same day a British and Native Field Hospital also passed, whilst early the following morning the Buffs arrived from Jullundur and rested for nine-and-a-half hours. In the evening the 2-4 Gurkhas, who had arrived from Bakloh a few days before, and had been accommodated in the Native Infantry lines, also left, our pipes and drums playing them to the station. Later on two companies of Sappers and Miners and an Engineer Field Park from Rurki halted for a few hours and left at night.

On the 28th ultimo two trains brought the 29th Punjab Infantry from Meerut, whilst early the following morning the East Lancashire Regiment from Lucknow halted for about nine hours, whilst the 13th Bengal Infantry from Fyzabad and one British and two Native Field Hospitals passed the same day. Two more Hospitals, the other wing of the 12th Bengal Infantry, and the 1st Bengal Infantry made their usual halts and passed on during the 30th, whilst a wing of the 34th Pioneers from here left the following day.

Twenty-six special troop trains thus halted at the rest-camp during the last week of March, representing nearly 700 carriages and various descriptions of rolling-stock, whilst in addition two heavily laden transport trains passed daily, together with the Gwalior and Jeypore Imperial Service Transport, of four and six trains respectively, and two specials for mules and camels. The amount of work thus thrown upon the hands of the Railway officials has been enormous, whilst the whole of the rest-camp staff under Lieutenant Patten have been indefatigable in their labours.

GIBRALTAR ANECDOTE.—One of the duties found by the battalion during its stay at Gibraltar in the years 1879 to 1881 was the landport guard, near which, in the bay, were situated some oyster beds, the property of a Spanish fisherman. These bivalves, owing to their proximity to the guardroom, received, as may be supposed, the special attention of the guard, who indulged freely in oyster suppers, and to such an extent did these depredations lead that the poor fisherman made a complaint to the Town Major,—an important official at that time, though the appointment is now done away with,—who promised, as a safeguard, to have a sentry placed over the beds. To this, however, the fisherman strongly objected, stating as his reason, "More soldier come, more oyster go."

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Regimental Gazette.

Paid Establishment.

The following are taken on the paid establishment of their rank :—

No. 2442 Lance-Corporal W. Jones, "C" Company; No. 3186 Lance-Corporal H. Robinson, "H" Company; No. 2820 Lance-Corporal A. Robb, "G" Company; No. 244 Lance-Corporal J. Lindsay, "B" Company; No. 3276 Lance-Corporal J. Ward, "G" Company; No. 2571 Lance-Corporal J. Walsh, "G" Company.

Appointments.

To be Lance Corporal.—No. 4395 Private A. Hunter, "H" Company.

To be Piper.—No. 3470 Private T. Brown, "E" Company.

To be Drummers.—No. 4031 Private D. Smeaton, "E" Company; No. 2145 Private W. Learmont, "A" Company; and No. 2768 Private W. McRae, "H" Company.

To be Rest Camp Sergeant.—Sergeant C. Wynne, "B" Company.

Hospital Matron.—Mrs. W. Goodwin to be Matron to the Station Family Hospital, Dalhousie.

Employment.

In Tailor's Shop.—No. 2792 Lance-Corporal R. Crichton, "B" Company.

In Shoemaker's Shop.—No. 3400 Private Smith, "H" Company; No. 4001 Private Crown, "E" Company; No. 3741 Private Hollingbery, "B" Company; No. 4323 Private Easton, "D" Company; No. 3268 Private McLellan, "A" Company.

In Quartermaster's Office.—No. 2794 Corporal G. Inglis, "H" Company.

In Rest Camp.—No. 3333 Private R. Singleton, "B" Company.

Transfers.

To 2nd Seaforth Highlanders.—No. 1245 Drum-Major R. Thomson on re-engagement.

From "D" to "E" Company.—No. 3591 Private R. Williams.

From "C" to "B" Company.—No. 3746 Drummer W. Brown.

Re-engagements and Extensions.

To complete 21 years with the Colors.—No. 1245 Drum-Major R. Thomson, "A" Company.

To complete 12 years.—No. 4031 Drummer D. Smeaton, "E" Company.

Good Conduct Pay.

The following have been granted 2*d.* per diem :—

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 3088 Lance-Corpl. A. Kettles. | No. 3005 Private R. Watson.
„ 3098 Private H. Docherty. | „ 3100 „ R. Young.
No. 3101 J. Taylor.

Restored 2*d.* per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 2968 Private P. Carroll.

Granted 1*d.* per diem :—

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 4704 Private J. Smith. | No. 4719 Private J. Lawrence.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4716 Private D. Davidson. | No. 4164 Private A. Moultrie.

Restored 1*d.* per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3832 Private G. Smith.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 884 Private J. Bulloch.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 3665 Private J. Petrie.

Professional Examination.

The following have passed for the rank of Sergeant :—

"*A*" *Company.*—No. 3053 Corporal W. Mathew.

"*B*" *Company.*—No. 3236 „ R. Miller.

"*C*" *Company.*—No. 1645 Lance-Sergt J. Pringle, No. 2986 Corporal W. Miller.

"*D*" *Company.*—No. 370 Lance-Sergeant W. Goodwin.

"*H*" *Company.*—No. 3144 Corporal G. Olden.

Passed for the rank of Corporal :—

"*A*" *Company.*—No. 2697 Lance-Corporal W. McPherson.
"*B*" *Company.*—No. 3247 „ „ W. McKimm.
"*C*" *Company.*—No. 3088 „ „ A. Kettles.
No. 3554 „ „ J. Williamson.
No. 2442 „ „ W. Jones.
"*D*" *Company.*—No. 3411 „ „ T. Smith.
No. 3506 „ „ A. Ranken.
"*E*" *Company.*—No. 4062 „ „ H. Langdon.
No. 3442 „ „ F. Rastall.
"*F*" *Company.*—No. 2757 „ „ T. Pagon.
"*G*" *Company.*—No. 3147 „ „ G. Franks.
No. 2571 „ „ J. Walsh.

Joined.

Taken on the strength of the Battalion :—

2nd Class Armourer Sergeant A. V. Hockaday, and posted to "H" Company.

The Draft.

The following draft from the Home Battalion has been posted as under :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 4523 Private W. Watt | No. 3067 Private D. Smith.
No. 4250 Private W. Knattons.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4782 Private W. Lang. | No. 4783 Private T. Harrison.
„ 4780 „ J. Hope. | „ 4670 „ S. Donnelly.
No. 4888 Private P. Horan.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 4796 Private W. Queen.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4963 Private J. Cannon. | No. 4770 Private J. Collins.
„ 4829 „ P. Coyle. | „ 4817 „ P. Fox.
No. 4647 Private H. Rennie.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 4868 Private W. Forbes. | No. 4812 Private J. McDonald.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 4651 Private H. Booth. | No. 4678 Private C. Harvey.
„ 4426 „ A. Henderson. | „ 4815 „ M. McLean.
„ 4821 „ W. Miller. | „ 4820 „ H. Montgomery.

"*G*" *Company*

No. 4654 Private C. Binnie. | No. 4830 Private P. Campbell.
„ 4792 „ C. Cunningham. | „ 4716 „ D. Davidson.
„ 4803 „ W. Fenton. | „ 4743 „ R. Hill.
No. 4702 Private H. Moat.

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"H" Company.

No. 2956	Sergeant.	G. Gunn.	No. 4643	Private	W. McGarvie.
,, 4671	Private	A. Bowl.	,, 4832	,,	P. Bradley.
,, 1128	,,	J. Campbell.	,, 4656	,,	J. Frell.
,, 4822	,,	J. Graham.	,, 4838	,,	J. Halford.
,, 4754	,,	W. Hawthorn.	,, 4839	,,	H. McKenna.
,, 4771	,,	J. Oliver.	,, 4660	,,	S. Scullion.

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

The following are awarded 2nd Class Certificates of Education :—

No. 2856	Sergeant	T. Campbell,	"B" Company.
,, 2829	Lance-Corpl.	A. Robb	"G" ,,
,, 3004	,,	R. Spittall	"D" ,,
,, 3686	,,	T. Starling	"E" ,,
,, 3276	,,	J. Ward	"G" ,,
,, 3849	Drummer	J. Duff	"H" ,,
,, 3937	Private	J. Patterson	"G" ,,

The following are awarded 3rd Class Certificates :—

No. 2697	Lance-Corpl.	McPherson,	"A" Company.
,, 2479	,,	Gordon	"B" ,,
,, 5293	Private	McBean	"E" ,,
,, 5164	Boy	Lewington	"B" ,,

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENTS.

CASUALS.

		£	s.	d.
No. 2887	Private H. Smith, "D" Company	0	16	0
,, 3117	,, W. Downie, "D" ,, ...	0	14	0
,, 3133	Lance-Sergt. W. Murdoch, "D" Company ...	0	10	0
,, 3611	Private A. Maskell, "D" Company	0	7	6

RECRUITS.

		£	s.	d.
No. 5362	Private D. MacBean, "E" Company	0	10	0
,, 5164	Boy J. Lewington, "B" ,, ...	0	5	0

FIELD FIRING.

Best Shooting Sections.

"A" Company.

No. 3308	Private	J. Allison.	No. 3852	Private	D. Campbell.
,, 2988	,,	P. Carroll.	,, 4074	,,	R. Hastie.
,, 2949	,,	W. Hunter.	,, 3941	,,	J. Leister.
,, 3043	,,	J. McIntosh.	,, 3047	,,	J. Milne.
,, 3892	,,	D. Marshall.	,, 3056	,,	P. MacFarlane.
,, 3062	,,	G. Sweeney.	,, 2894	,,	A. Thomson.

Section Commander.—No. 621 Sergeant J. H. Symcox.

"B" Company.

No. 2792	Lce.-Corpl.	R. Crichton.	No. 3749	Drummer	A. Hollands.
,, 3764	Private	J. Adcock.	,, 3755	Private	A. Hollingberry.
,, 2438	,,	A. McLeod.	,, 2381	,,	R. Marr.
,, 3735	,,	G. Stewart.	,, 3515	,,	R. Sutherland.

No. 2852 Private C. McLaren.

Section Commander—No. 3005 Lance-Sergeant A. MacDonald.

"C" Company.

No. 3068	Lance-Corporal	Kettles.	No. 4082	Private	Baker.
,, 3871	Private	Cowan.	,, 2853	,,	Dunsmore.
,, 3538	,,	Farquharson.	,, 3363	,,	Farrell.
,, 3032	,,	Gray.	,, 3682	,,	McColl.
,, 3089	,,	Paton.	,, 4092	,,	White.

No. 3100 Private Young.

Section Commander—No. 1778 Color-Sergeant Swan.

"D" Company.

No. 3036	Private	Brydone.	No. 3139	Private	Gordon.
,, 4104	,,	Cooper.	,, 2888	,,	Hall.
,, 2815	,,	Drummond.	,, 4243	,,	Hamilton.
,, 4234	,,	Edwards.	,, 3405	,,	Hanlon.
,, 2479	Lce.-Corpl.	Gordon.	,, 3748	,,	McLachlan.
,, 3294	Private	Gordon.	,, 2949	,,	Maddox.

No. 4163, Private Minnell.

Section Commander.—No. 713 Color-Sgt. A. MacDonald.

"E" Company.

No. 3199	Private	Ackland.	No. 3196	Private	H. Barker.
,, 2878	,,	Crossley.	,, 4101	,,	Crown.
,, 4245	,,	Goudie.	,, 4237	,,	Kellagher.
,, 3860	,,	Kennedy.	,, 4016	,,	Melon.

Section Commander—No. 2735 Sergeant J. Tyndall.

"F" Company.

No. 2759	Lance-Corpl.	Pagon.	No. 3779	Private	McCaw.
,, 2611	Private	Reid.	,, 2982	,,	Forbes.
,, 3917	,,	Broadley.	,, 2954	,,	Wilson.
,, 2797	,,	Johnstone.	,, 3241	,,	Payne.
,, 2828	,,	Hill.	,, 2576	,,	Laidlaw.

Section Commander—No. 1085, Sergeant Chaplain.

"G" Company.

No. 1782	Drummer	Walker.	No. 3288	Private	Falconer.
,, 3235	Private	Adams.	,, 3279	,,	Fowler.
,, 4125	,,	Alcock.	,, 3258	,,	Holden.
,, 3814	,,	Baillie.	,, 2762	,,	Johnstone.

No. 3326 Private Beattie.

Section Commander—No. 3116, Sergeant Weller.

"H" Company.

No. 2598	Private	Lavery.	No. 2833	Private	Cameron.
,, 3438	,,	Armstrong.	,, 3499	,,	Devlin.
,, 2951	,,	Bryson.	,, 4295	,,	Keeble.
,, 4160	,,	Begent.	,, 3728	,,	Mottou.

Section Commander—No. 3531 Lance-Corpl. Marks.

INVALIDS.

The following have been transferred home as invalids—

No. 3385 Private F. Dancey. | No. 3392 Private H. Lamphey.

DEATHS.

Bell.—At Halkirk, Sutherlandshire, on the 14th February 1895, Color-Sergeant William Bell, late Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders aged, 84.

Smith.—At Toronto, Canada, Mr. Alexander Smith, late Ninety-third Highlanders, aged 77.

:o:

The Ninety-third Highlanders.

—o—

THE following short account of the battalion appeared in *The Broad Arrow* of February last, and we have taken the liberty of reproducing it :—

Four regiments in succession have ranked as the 93rd Foot.

1. The 93rd Foot of 1760-63. This regiment was raised under an order, dated 17th January 1760, and was disbanded at the peace of 1763. The facings were grey.

2. The 93rd Foot of 1779-83. This was an English Corps, formed at Dover during the American War. It went out to Jamaica with the reinforcements in 1780, and was disbanded at the peace of 1783. The facings were yellow.

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3. The 93rd Foot of 1793-96. This regiment formed part of the expedition sent to the West Indies in 1796, under General Whyte, for the reduction of the Dutch Settlements at Demarara, Essequibo and Berbice. After the performance of that service, the remains of the 93rd and the 99th were drafted into the senior regiment of the force, the 39th, and the 93rd regiment disappeared from the rolls.

4. The 93rd (Sutherland Highlanders) of 1800, now the 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Regiment—the famous 93rd of Crimean and Indian Story. Amongst the regiments of Fencible Infantry—foot regiments for limited Home service—raised in 1793, was a Sutherland Regiment, commanded by Colonel Wemyss of Wemyss, which bore a high character for discipline and did good service in Ireland in 1798. Like other Fencible Regiments, it was reduced soon after; but although the Government of the day was offering high bounties to undersized recruits from the reduced regiments of supplementary Militia, no attempt seems to have been made to retain the trained soldiers of the Sutherland Regiment. After the men had most of them been for eighteen months in civil employment, Colonel—by that time Major-General—Wemyss was authorised to form a line battalion, 600 strong, and to prevail on men who had served under him in the Sutherland Regiment to join it. He succeeded in thus raising about 460 men in Sutherland, and by recruiting in Ross and the adjacent counties, the strength was eventually brought up to 1,000 rank and file. In proof of the excellence of the material, may be cited the fact, mentioned by General David Stewart, that for nineteen years not a man in the Light Company of the 93rd was punished. The rendezvous of the new regiment was Guernsey. The uniform was scarlet with yellow facings and silver (white) lace, with a yellow stripe in it. The kilt and belted plaid were of the Sutherland Tartan.

The 93rd served at the re-capture of the Cape of Good Hope by Sir David Baird in 1806, and did duty in that Colony until 1814, when it returned home. It sailed the same year with the Expedition against New Orleans, and in the desperate but unsuccessful attack on the American position on the left of the Mississippi lost 3 officers, 2 sergeants and 58 men killed, and 12 officers, 17 sergeants, 3 drummers and 348 men wounded. On its return from the Gulf of Mexico the 93rd was ordered to Ireland, where it was at the time of the battle of Waterloo. A second battalion, which had been raised for the regiment in 1814, did duty in Newfoundland for sixteen months, and was then brought home and disbanded.

The 93rd served in the West Indies and Guinea from 1823 to 1833. It was in Canada during the insurrection of 1838, and served in North America and the West Indies until 1848. The regiment went to the East with the Highland Division in 1854, and after serving in Turkey and Bulgaria landed in the Crimea, and was distinguished at the Alma.

The legend of Balaclava, borne by the 93rd alone among foot regiments, commemorates the repulse of the Russian Horse, which recoiled, scattered and defeated before the steady volleys of the 93rd drawn up by Colin Campbell in the now historic *Thin Red Line* on the memorable 25th October 1854. With the other Highland Regiments, the 93rd was in the expedition to Kertch and Yenikale in the following spring, and served before Sevastopol during the latter part of the seige. It proceeded to India in the autumn of 1857, and under its old leaders served at the second relief of Lucknow, and was repeatedly distinguished during the seige and capture of that city, and afterwards in Rohilkhund. After the suppression of the revolt, the 93rd remained many years in India, during which time it was more than once employed on the North-West frontier. Eventually it returned Home in 1870.

In 1879 it was sent to Gibraltar, but was brought Home again in 1881. After a tour of duty in Scotland, England and Ireland, it went out to India in 1891.

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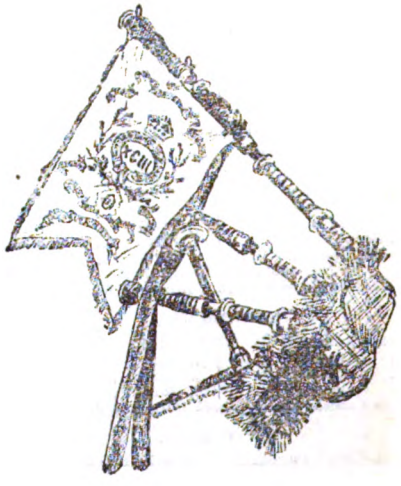
Subscriptions.

—o—

WE beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions for one year from the following:—

Lietenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh.
Lieutenant A. Patten, (2 subcriptions).
Piper Donald Murray.
Sergeant W. Weller.
Major W. H. Dick-Cunyngham, V. C.
2nd Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish.



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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following:—

"The Soldier."
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The 2nd Suffolk Gazette" (12th Suffolk Regiment).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.)
"The XVI" (16th Bedfordshire Regiment).
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Lancashire Lad," (47th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regt.)
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"The Tiger and Sphinx" (75th Gordon Highlanders).
"The 79th News" (79th Cameron Highlanders).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment.)
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Stirling Observer."
"The Man of the World."
"The Celtic Monthly."
"John O'Groat Journal."
"The Seventh Regiment Gazette" (7th N. Y. N. G.)

COMPANY AGENTS.

"A" Company—Private Watson.
"C" " —Lance-Corporal Kettles.
"D" " — " " Rankin.
"E" " — " " Pendergast.
"F" " — " " Brodie.
"G" " —Private Buckland.
"H" " —Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Private Gadd.
Dalhousie Depot—Lance-Corporal Forbes.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line*—

With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union, N. C. O.'s and men of the Regiment. } Rs. 2 per annum.

Officers and others not connected with the Regiment. } Rs. 3 per annum.

NOTA BENE.

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contribution should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money-orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

"The Thin Red Line,"

THE REGIMENTAL PAPER

OF THE

2nd Bn. Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

PRESS OPINIONS.

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is a matter of indifference to us, but we would advise those going to Dalhousie to become yearly subscribers and so ensure receipt of their copy monthly by friends at home, as last season owing to the limited number issued

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No 5
vol 2

SUTHERLAND · HIGHLANDERS
93

The Thin Red Line.

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THE THIN RED LINE

XCIII

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 5.—Vol. II. MIAN MIR,—MAY 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

LIEUTENANT-General Sir William Lockhart, K.C.B., C.S.I., assumed command of the Punjab Army on the 1st April, according to the re-organisation scheme of the Indian Army. The head-quarters are at Abbottabad.

* * * * * *

Sergeant Pringle has proceeded to Kasauli as Instructor at the School of Army Signalling, which is annually formed there.

* * * * * *

Captain M. McNeill has returned from service in Waziristan, where he was signalling officer to the second Brigade, reporting his arrival on the 1st May. He looked very fit and well, and this opportunity is taken to congratulate him on his promotion.

By some unaccountable oversight we failed to mention in our last number that Major-General Sir G. B. Wolseley, K.C.B., arrived at Mian Mir on the 13th March and took over command of the Lahore District.

* * * * * *

Now that the *punkahs* are in full swing—that is, are supposed to be—from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M., and from 9 P.M. to 5 A.M., the following story from the *Times of India* will have due effect, as the moral is not far to seek :—

A telegraph engineer having had the usual experience of night *punkahwalas*, devised a method of waking his boy up that promised to put an end to all future trouble. He connected a battery with the stool upon which the coolie squatted, and so arranged the gear that if the *punkah* stopped and woke him, he could press a button and surprise the coolie. He had not long to wait before the opportunity for testing his invention arrived. The button was scarcely touched when the boy tumbled with a yell on to the floor, and roused the house with his screams. It may be that the shock was just a trifle strong, but the "corpse reviver," as the inventor called it, acted only too well, for by the following night there was not to be found within a mile a coolie who would face the *shitan* in the engineer sahib's bed-room.

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On the 12th April those who had "quiffed the hills," and whose destination was Dalhousie, left the rest-camp station at about half-past seven in the evening for Pathankote, from which place they march to Bannikhet, where our convalescents are to be stationed this year. The party numbered fifty-four non-commissioned officers and men, and were under the command of 2nd Lieutenant R. B. Graham.

* * * * * *

Our signallers—at least some of them—have at last an opportunity of distinguishing themselves and securing that much coveted honor dear to all soldiers hearts—a medal. Twelve of our signallers have joined the flying column of the Chitral Field Force at Abbottabad, and left for that place on the evening of the 13th April. Their names are :—

Sergeant W. Smith, Corporals R. Millar and F. Rastall, and Privates Dunmore, Inglis, W. Johnson, Sturgess, Brooks, McKay, Hamilton, Amos and Henderson.

* * * * * *

Corporal Olden is in charge of the signallers remaining at head-quarters, and is also putting through the class that Corporal Millar had under instruction.

* * * * * *

A competition between the pipers of the Battalion took place on the evening of the 15th April, the following being successful :—Pipers Smart, Anderson, Ferguson, Mackenzie, Findlayson and Nicholson.

* * * * * *

"C" Company left for the Lahore Fort on the morning of the 16th April in relief of "F" Company, who returned in the evening to head-quarters. 2nd Lieutenant J. Campbell, who has just returned from leave, commanded the company, and had with him Color-Sergeant Swan and all available non-commissioned officers and men of the company.

* * * * * *

A wing of three companies of the 3rd Bengal (Purbiah) Infantry arrived here from Lucknow on the 16th ultimo, detraining about 11 P.M., and on the afternoon of the same date a company of the 35th Sikhs from Nowgong also swelled the ranks of the garrison : these detachments take the place of the 34th Pioneers who have proceeded to the front. The head-quarters of the 35th Sikhs has gone to Ferozepore in relief of the 28th Punjab Infantry who are to form one of the reserve brigades for Chitral.

* * * * * *

We cannot boast of being a very territorial regiment, but as Edinburgh, Glasgow, and more especially Aberdeen and the north – where the Ninety-third is still a name to conjure with—supply a large number of our recruits, this is not to be wondered at. According to the latest returns there are 323 men in the two battalions who were born in the regimental district, which comprises the counties of Argyll, Renfrew, Stirling, Dumbarton, Clackmannan and Kinross.

* * * * * *

A high class illustrated London contemporary mentions in its columns that the troops for the Chitral Relief Force were being mobilised at Calcutta. A little march of fifteen hundred miles or so is to them apparently of no consequence whatever.

* * * * * *

Sergeant J. H. Symcox left on the 17th April for the Chungla Galli School of Musketry, where he has been selected to act as Instructor.

* * * * * *

Captain S. L. Robinson has been granted general leave in India for three months until 14th July 1895.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant C. W. H. Bell is also away home for six months : 2nd Lieutenant F. C. Newall has been granted leave in India for the same period on medical certificate, whilst Lieutenants Darroch, Gordon and Tweedie are away too, and will not rejoin until the middle of July.

* * * * * *

The Sergeants' Mess has been presented with a very handsome clock by one of its late members—

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2nd Lieutenant Ronald R. Stewart of the Seaforth Highlanders—to which regiment it will be remembered he was gazetted from our ranks last November.

* * * * * *

For the Musketry season of 1894 "A" Company again heads the lists, the average being 133·32. In the company there are eighteen marksmen, fifty-nine first-class shots, fifty-seven second and only two third.

* * * * * *

The rest-camp has still been busy during the month, though the pressure has not been so high as in March. Several more regiments have passed through for the reserve brigades, the 2-2nd Prince of Wales' Own and the 2-3rd Gurkhas, a draft of 150 men for the East Lancashire Regiment and two companies of the Royal West Surrey Regiment, the latter for garrison duty at Fort Attock, No. 6 Bengal Mountain Battery and several field hospitals, both native and British, one of them—No. 3—being formed at this station which it left on the 10th with Sergeant Middleley and Private Liddle in charge of pack stores.

* * * * * *

Sirdar Nasr-ullah Khan, the son of the Amir of Afghanistan, who is on his way to pay a visit to Her Majesty, arrived at Lahore on the morning of the 23rd April. The battalion was to have formed a guard of honor for his arrival, and the details were out, but this order was eventually cancelled and the 3rd Bengal Native Infantry furnished the guard instead. The Sirdar was accompanied by a small escort of his own troops, who, however, according to the *Civil and Military Gazette*, compared very unfavourably with our own stalwart Purbias. After inspecting the guard of honor, he drove to Bahawalpur house, which was placed at his disposal by the Nawab, and left in the evening for Bombay *en route* to England.

* * * * * *

Guard mounting at the present time takes place at 6-30 A.M. daily.

A correspondent in Fife sends us the following:—

Sergeant Thomas Lawson, late Ninety third Highlanders, died at Dunfermline on 12th March 1895, aged 66. Sergeant Lawson joined the Ninety-third at Dundee after its return from Canada. He served in the Crimea as Sergeant, and was one of the "Thin Red Line" at Balaclava. He purchased his discharge in 1856 after having served with the Regiment for about ten years. He afterwards joined the Fifeshire Constabulary in which he served for thirty years. He retired four years ago. The deceased was a native of Kennoway.

* * * * * *

The new Musketry season has already commenced, the band and a party of casuals (signallers) being the first to go through. They completed their course with an average of 136·69 for individual practices and 56·26 for field practices. Of the party, Private E. Miller, "F" Company, is best shot, tieing with Private J. Burns, who, however, only gets second place, Miller being best at rapid firing.

* * * * * *

There has been very little sport in the battalion during the last month, owing no doubt to the gradually increasing heat; and only one solitary cricket match and one football match, both friendly ones, between two teams of the band, have to be chronicled.

* * * * * *

Although, no doubt, before this paper is published some change may have taken place, yet up to the present nothing definite is known about a shift to the hills, and the order is still to stand fast.

* * * * * *

Owing to the heat—it is at present 93° in the shade in a cool hospital ward—the dress and usual routine of the Battalion has undergone several most excellent modifications. In the first place no parades take place after eight in the morning, or before six in the afternoon, whilst all serge clothing is carefully folded up and placed in one's box, except, of course, the kilt, and the more serviceable khaki or dapper white takes its place. The orderly piper now no longer skirls, "Hey! Jock, are ye glad ye 'listed," at

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the advent of each meal, and the orderly officer and orderly sergeants remain within the cool walls of their respective bungalows. Cold *tiffin* is now served in the sergeants' mess at midday, and the dinner hour is fixed more sensibly, and also conveniently, at 7 P.M.

* * * * * *

Owing to a scarcity of officers amongst the K. O. S. Bs., Lieutenant Patten has been attached to them for duty with the Chitral Field Force, and he left to join them on the 23rd April.

* * * * * *

"D" Company finished military training on the 23rd April after the usual routine.

* * * * * *

According to *The Aldershot News* the gallant Ninety-first Highlanders have been celebrating, in characteristic martial style, with their comrades of the 1st Middlesex, the splendid victory won sixteen years, on the 2nd April 1879, over Cetewayo's troops at Ginguihlovo. This battle, as all know, resulted in the utter rout of the Zulus.

* * * * * *

The convalescent details for Dagshai, consisting of twenty men, left for their destination on the 27th April, 2nd Lieutenant H. C. Macdonald proceeding in charge of the party. Owing to the Chitral Expedition, the lower barracks at Dagshai have not been occupied this year,—the West Surrey Regiment, which relieved the Derbyshires, being on garrison duty at Ferozepore and Attock,—and the accommodation thus afforded is being used for convalescents from various plain stations.

* * * * * *

Corporal C. Johnstone, "B" Company, and Lance-Corporal A. Kettles, "C" Company, have been temporarily transferred to the Commissariat Department for duty with the Chitral Field Force.

* * * * * *

The rest-camp was struck on the last day of April, and all the canvas stored in "H" Company's bungalow until required next cold season.

* * * * * *

Major Chas. Grant has been appointed to officiate as Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General for Musketry, *vice* Major Wylley, on leave.

The Swimming Bath.

—o—

As for ma'sell I'm no a gran' soomer, but when ma bed chum tell't me that the baths wis open I thocht I wud jist hae a bit soom. Weel I gaed ower tae the baths, and wud ye believe it?—in the wee bit hoose, no sae big as ma section in the bungalow, I saw aboot thirty men in a state o' nudity a' bobbing up and doun in the water like a wheen o' corks.

Weel I strippit, an' no wanting tae look feared like, I went ower tae the divin' board, and reachin' ma hans weel ower ma heid, in the approved fashion, I shut ma mouth and gaed ae spring. I'm no richt shair hoo it happened, but I hae a suspeesion I must o' hit the back of some yin's heid wi ma nose, for I saw stars and ma life's bluid flowed freely. I got oot o' the bath then for twa o' three meenits and rested ma'sell, and then hacin in mind the auld story o' "Bruce an' the Spider," I jist tried agin—this time wi' better success, for I tuk the water a richt; but I hadna made a single stroke, afore some yin's fit struck me fairly in ma mouth knocking the only guid front tooth I hed doun my throat, an' I sunk like a stone, a spluttering and spitting, an' I'm shair I maun hae swallowed about twa gallons of water; and conseederin' that about twa hunder men had bathed in it, deed it was stronger than the canteen beer. Weel, I thocht I had eneuch for yin day, so I went tae get dressit, and I fun that some yin had ta'en awa my socks, only yin shoe was left and that was the richt yin, and my pipe and baccy had vanished far from human ken.

I'll no say that that bath improved ma chances o' the future state, but I can safely sweir that wild horses 'ill no drag me the they baths agin.

DAVIE.

The Manager will purchase copies of No IV, Volume I, if in good condition.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT "A" Company is again the best shooting company in the Battalion.

That they have started their '95 course.

That they are shooting even better than last year.

That the pipers have been having high jinks.

That they held a prize meeting.

That a bottle of "mountain dew" was the first prize.

That there has been a lot of passing over lately.

That a new evening dress has been seen in the sergeants' mess.

That the sparrows in "E" Company's bungalow have received a terrible warning.

That the passage of Swat river has now become comparatively easy.

That this is since No. 3 B. F. Hospital left the station.

That the sergeants of a certain company are known as "the Gurkhas."

That it would have liked to have been a signaller.

That it wishes them luck.

That appearances are against a "gong."

That there should be a few in the battalion later on however.

That the punkahs have started.

That at times the "kinchoing" is rather feeble.

That "F" Company again have the physical drill shield.

That they were the only team that entered.

That a non-commissioned officer in the band has introduced a new drill.

That the swimming baths are open.

That some men seem to live in them.

That the band had a great picnic.

That they were rather erratic for the next few days.

That the cricket clock winners have been immortalised.

That it hopes the machine was insured.

That it's getting too hot for much sport.

That tartans have been discarded.

That "*khakis*" are even a "*thora garum.*"

That there have been a lot of promotions.

That it couldn't "quiff" the hills.

Band Picnic.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The 3rd May was the day arranged for the Band Beano Club to hold their annual "Beano" or Picnic. In the morning the weather being rather inclement we were considerably depressed, but as the weather cleared so did our spirits, and by eleven o'clock the sun shone forth gloriously, and we drove away from the band bungalow in grand style intending to enjoy ourselves to the utmost. The drive to our rendezvous was duly appreciated, and the fragrant weed—"Jem de Java brand"—impregnated the air in our wake. At last we reached the Shalimar Gardens, where we dined "al fresco" upon the good things supplied by an able committee—Bandsmen Chidley, Bracey and Fell.

The inner man being satisfied all adjourned for a walk round the gardens, where the fountains in play were admired, and the several lookouts and points of vantage climbed to obtain views of the surrounding country.

After this, and as the day wore on, the busking band volunteered to play a few dances, and we quickly grasped this opportunity of displaying our agility at the "light fantastic." This becoming fatiguing after a short time was followed by a concert, during which fruits, cigars and free drinks were freely discussed, and, as a *finale*, the energetic committee were awarded a most hearty vote of thanks, and one of the happiest days that the "Beano's" have spent in Mian Mir was brought to an end.

J. B.

UBIQUITY OF SCOTSMEN.—A gentleman travelling in Turkey and arriving at a military station, took occasion to admire the martial appearance of two men. He says:—

"The Russian was a fine, soldier-like figure, nearly six feet high, with a heavy dragoon moustache, and a latent figure betraying itself in every line of his muscular limbs. Our Pasha was a short thick-set man, rather too round and puffy in the face to be very dignified: but the eager restless glance of his quick grey eye showed that he had no want of energy. My friend the interpreter looked admiringly at the pair as they approached each other and was just exclaiming, 'there, thank God, are a real Russian and a real Turk, and admirable specimens of their race, too!' when suddenly General Sarasoff and Ibrahim Pasha, after staring at each other for a moment, burst forth simultaneously, 'Eh, Danald Cawmell, are ye there?' 'Lord keep us, Sanny Rober'son, can this be you?,"

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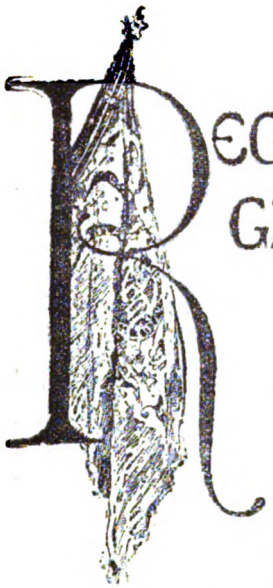

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

The following promotions have been made :—

To be Color-Sergeants—No. 1787, Sergeant W. Bates, "B" Company, and No. 1529, Sergeant W. H. Bush, "H" Company.

To be Sergeants—No. 370, Lance-Sergeant W. Goodwin, "D" Company; No. 3133, Lance-Sergeant W. Murdoch "D" Company; No. 2930, Lance-Sergeant J. Dawson, "E" Company, and No. 1645, Lance-Sergeant J. Pringle, "C" Company.

To be Corporals—No. 3442, Lance-Corporal F. Rastall, "E" Company; No. 4209, Lance-Corporal A. Campbell, "A" Company; No. 2430, Lance-Corporal A. Millar, "H" Company; No. 2757, Lance-Corporal T. Pagon, "F" Company; No. 4269, Lance-Corporal F. Fressanges, "E" Company; and No. 3554, Lance-Corporal W. Williamson, "C" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

The following appointments have been made :—

To be Sergeant Drummer—No. 1020, Sergeant W. Jackson, "H" Company.

To be Lance-Sergeants—No. 3071, Corporal R. Paton, "E" Company; No. 3006, Corporal J. Ewan, "F" Company, and No. 2981, Corporal W. Scott, "E" Company.

To be Lance-Corporals—No. 4526, Private G. Watt, and No. 3967, Private J. Duncan, "A" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals—No. 4630, Private G. Duncan, and No. 4719, Private J. Lawrence, "E" Company, and No. 3611, Private A Maskell, "D" Company.

To be Drill Instructor—No. 1772, Sergeant J. W. Green, "D" Company.

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

The following are taken on the paid establishment of their ranks :—

No. 3071, Lance-Sergeant R. Paton, "E" Company; No. 3005, Lance-Sergeant A. Macdonald, "B" Company; No. 3006, Lance-Sergeant J. Ewan, "F" Company; No. 3277, Lance-Corporal Franklin, "G" Company; No. 3662, Lance-Corporal J. Harvey, "G" Company; No. 3686, Lance-Corporal Starling, "E" Company; No. 3120, Lance-Corporal J. Pendergast, "E" Company; No. 3153, Lance-Corporal H. Brodie, "F" Company; No. 2697, Lance-Corporal J. McPherson, "A" Company, and No. 2767, Lance-Corporal J. Murphy, "F" Company.

TRANSFERS.

From "H" to "E" Company—No. 1020, Sergeant Drummer W. Jackson.

From "D" to "H" Company—No. 370, Sergeant W. Goodwin.

From "D" to "B" Company—No. 3133, Sergeant W. Murdoch.

From "E" to "H" Company—No. 2930, Sergeant J. Dawson.

From "E" to "D" Company—No. 3442, Corporal F. Rastall.

From "A" to "C" Company—No. 4209, Corporal A. Campbell.

From "H" to "F" Company—No. 2430, Corporal A. Millar.

From "F" to "G" Company—No. 2757, Corporal T. Pagon.

From "C" to "D" Company—No. 3554, Corpl. W. Williamson.

EMPLOYMENT.

To be Provost Sergeant—No. 2528, Sergeant J. Blair, "D" Company.

As Regimental Police—No. 2896, Private J. Brand, "B" Company.

In Orderly Room—No. 4800, Private W. Fenton, "G" Company, as Assistant Clerk.

In A. T. A.—No. 4136, Private W. Thomas, "B" Company, as Barman.

To be Librarian.—No. 244, Lance-Corpl. Lindsay, "B" Company.

In charge of Baths—No. 2908, Private W. Elliott, and No. 3063, Private R. Wardrope, "H" Company.

At Army Head-Quarters—No. 4269, Corporal F. Fressanges "E" Company, and No. 3519, Private G. Artlett, "C" Company, have proceeded to Simla.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem—

"E" Company.

No. 3110, Private H. Reid.

Granted 1d. per diem—

"E" Company.

No. 4738, Private W. Speedie. | No. 4748, Private W. Maxwell.

"F" Company.

No. 4678, Private C. Harvey.

"G" Company.

No. 4737, Private T. Adam. | No. 4743, Private R. Hill.

Restored 1d. per diem—

"A" Company.

No. 3059, Private J. Auld. | No. 4121, Private W. Donoghue.

"D" Company.

No. 2803, Private D. Milne. | 4313, Private J. Ferguson.

"F" Company.

No. 2912, Private R. McWilliams. | No. 3873, Private J. Buckley.

"H" Company.

No. 2951, Private H. Bryson. | No. 4288, Drummer H. Trodd.

HINDUSTANI.

Passed Part I.—Lower Standard.—No. 2519, Sergeant W. Smith, "D" Company, and No. 3133, Sergeant W. Murdoch, "B" Company.

COMMISSARIAT DEPARTMENT.

No. 36, Lance-Corporal Poole, "D" Company, to be temporarily employed in transport lines.

—:o:—

Mian Mir and the Mutiny.

—o—

THE general incapacity and weakness displayed by those in command at the various stations and cantonments all over India during the earlier stages of the Sepoy outbreak of 1857, was mainly the cause of the frightful disasters at Cawnpore, Meerut, and many other places, and it was only the energy displayed by the civil authorities and the firmness and skill of Brigadier Corbett, then commanding at this station, that saved Lahore, with its valuable treasure

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and store of arms, from falling into the hands of the mutineers and sharing a similar fate.

It was in the early part of May, just 38 years ago, that disquietening rumours first commenced to circulate in the cities of the Punjab; rumours of mutiny and treachery, of British officers murdered by the sepoys under their command, of women and children massacred in cold blood, of terrible tragedies at Delhi and Meerut, news of which was confirmed and exaggerated by a telegram that reached Lahore on the morning of the 12th May. Mian Mir was at that time garrisoned by Her Majesty's 81st foot, together with two troops of horse artillery and four companies of garrison gunners, whilst the Native Regiments consisted of the 8th Light Cavalry, 16th (Grenadiers), 26th (Light) and 49th Native infantry, of these troops one company of the 81st and one of Garrison artillery with a wing of Native infantry were at Lahore Fort "to keep a check on the city and guard the government treasury" says the writer of *Our Indian Empire*—

"There do not appear to have been any indications of disaffection exhibited at Lahore, either by incendiary fires or night meetings;" continues the same writer—"Still the Europeans could not but anxiously question the degree to which the sepoys might be disposed to sympathise with the cause of the revolt." A Sikh non-commissioned officer of police was the first to discover a conspiracy amongst the native troops at Mian Mir, "involving the safety of the Lahore Fort and the lives of all the European residents in the Cantonment and the Civil station of Anarkali," and upon this becoming known, decisive measures were determined upon for the safety of the fort and European population.

"During the former half of May the 26th Native Infantry had furnished the wing on guard, which was, in due course, to be relieved on the 15th of the month by a wing of the 49th Native Infantry. It was arranged by the conspirators, that while the wings of both regiments were in the fort together, in the act of relief, the united force, amounting to about 1,100 men, were to rush on their officers, seize the gates, and take possession of the citadel, the magazine and treasury. The small body of Europeans, not above 150 in all, would, it was expected, be easily overwhelmed; and then an empty hospital close by, in the deserted lines at Anarkali, was to be set on fire, as a signal to the rebels at Mian Mir, of the success of the opening scene of the plot. The rise was expected to become general in the Cantonment; the guns were to be seized, the Central Jail forced, its 2,000 prisoners liberated, and the triumph was to terminate in a promiscuous massacre of Europeans."

"Information subsequently obtained, is alleged to have shown that the plot extended much beyond Lahore, and included Ferozepore, Phillour, Jullundur and Amritsar."

"The officers of the Native regiments were, in this, as in almost every instance, slow to believe the unwelcome tidings. Each one was disposed to repudiate, on behalf of his own men, the charge of complicity; yet the Brigadier resolved on the bold and unprecedented step of disarming the whole of the Native troops in the station. The following morning was fixed for the time of the proposed *coup d'etat*, and arrangements were made with anxious secrecy. That evening (the 12th) a ball was to be given by the station to the officers of Her Majesty's 81st regiment. The fear of affording any cause of suspicion to the sepoys prevented its being postponed. The Europeans assembled according to previous arrangements, and dancing was carried on with more spirit than gaiety. The ladies could not but glance at the "piled arms" in the corners of the rooms. Their partners could not but watch the doors and windows in readiness to seize each one his ready weapon. But all continued quiet; and at two in the morning the party broke up; and after a few more anxious hours, the gentlemen assembled on the parade-ground."

"Civilians and soldiers – all were there. The real point at issue was one on which the lives of themselves, their wives and children, depended; but even the avowed cause of the parade was an important and anxious one. The Europeans had longed viewed the Sepoy army as the bulwark of British power in India; and its continued allegiance was confidently expected, as ensured by the mutual interest of the employers and the employed. Now that a new light was thrown on the subject, the officers looked with strangely mingled feelings upon the men they had trained and disciplined, as they marched up and stood in order, to hear the general order for the disbandment of a portion of the Native infantry at Barrackpore."

"The order was read at the heads of the several Native regiments; then, as if to form a part of the brigade manœuvres of the day, the whole of the troops were countermarched, so as to face inwards—on one side the Native regiments at quarter-column distance, in front of them the 81st Queen's (only five companies) in line, with the guns along their rear. The crisis had arrived; and Lieutenant Mocatta Adjutant of the 26th Native infantry, stepped forward, and read an address to the sepoys, explaining how the mutinous spirit, which had been so unexpectedly found to pervade other regiments, had

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determined the brigadier to take prompt measures to prevent its spread among those under his control; his object being not so much the peace of the country, which the British could themselves maintain, but rather the preservation of the good name of the regiments whose colors told of many glorious battle fields; it was therefore desirable to prevent the men from involving themselves in a ruinous mutiny. The exordium was sufficiently significant. While it was being read, the 81st, according to a pre-arrangement, formed into subdivisions, and fell back between the guns; so that when the address ended with two short words—'Pile Arms'—the 16th Grenadiers (to whom the order was first given) found themselves confronted, not by a thin line of European soldiers, but by twelve guns loaded with grape and port-fires burning."

"The 16th was no common regiment; its men had been numbered among General Nott's 'noble sepoys' at Candahar and Ghzunee. They had served with distinction in Cabul, Maharajpoor, Moodkee, Ferozshuhur, Sobraon; and, in evidence of their earlier exploits, had an embroidered star on their colors, in memory of their presence at Seringapatam; and a royal tiger under a banian tree for Mysore. A slight hesitation and delay was perceptible among their ranks; but the clear voice of Colonel Renny ordering his men to load, with the ringing response of each ramrod as it drove home its ball-cartridge, denounced, with irresistible force, the madness of resistance. The waverers sullenly piled arms, as did also the 49th Native infantry and a portion of the 26th Light infantry. The 8th Cavalry unbuckled and dropped their sabres. Thus to the unspeakable relief of 600 Europeans, the 2,500 soldiers stood disarmed, and were marched off to their lines comparitively harmless. The troops, no longer to be trusted with arms, had been actively employed in the conquest of the country. The sepoys in the fort were dealt with in an equally summary manner. Major Spencer, who commanded the wing of the 26th light infantry in the fort, was privately informed that his men would be relieved on the morning of the 14th, instead of on the 15th, as before ordered. At daybreak on the 14th, three companies of the 81st, under Colonel Smith, entered the fort, to the utter dismay of the sepoys, who obeyed without demur the order to lay down their arms and were speedily marched off to their own lines at Mian Mir.

Thus was Lahore saved and the Sikh nation secured in their allegience.

———:o:———

At the Fort.

—o—

ROUTE marching and practising for the physical drill shield—for which after all there was no competition—have been the chief occupations of "F" Company whilst in garrison here, the former taking place twice a week, when good stiff marches were performed before breakfast. The physical drill squad was worked up to a high state of excellence, and had the competition come off there is no doubt that it would have taken a very excellent team to have beaten them.

A considerable amount of cricket was played during the earlier portion of the month, and many teams were met and defeated. The following are the scores of a match played on the 11th ultimo against a strong native team from the city, yclept the Merchant Club, which was won by "F" Company by 49 runs:—

"*F*" *Company.*—Privates Bailey 1, Reid 2, Webster 9, Renwick 5, Wells 10, Wilson 24, Halleron 3, Shearer 3, Robertson 3, Hamblion not out 5, Lance-Corporal Fearn 5: extras 13: total 83. *Merchant Club*—total 34.

Shikar has also been a favourite pastime amongst the few fortunate possessors of guns, and Changa Manga has been the happy hunting ground. Venison and bears' flesh have been staple articles of diet in both the non-commissioned officers' mess and the bungalows.

"C" Company relieved "F" on the 17th ultimo: 2nd Lieutenant Campbell taking over command of the Fort from Lieutenant H. P. Moulton-Barrett.

———:o:———

Cricket.

—o—

Band Cricket Club. Corporal Watters' team v. *Corporal Brown's team.*—This match was played on the 18th April for a prize presented by the bandmaster. Corporal Brown's eleven were victorious by twenty-two runs, mainly by the bowling of Private Farley who secured seven wickets of twelve runs. *Scores.*—Corporal Watters team—Privates Heyward 0, Denholm 6, Corporal Watters 16, Private Johnston 0, Lillywhite (2454) 2, Ogden 0, Lyons 1, Chidley 0, Walker not out 2, Benson 0, Mackie 3: extras 4: total 32. Corporal Brown's team—Privates Brotherston 16, Farley 11, Corporal Brown 3, Privates Crawford 2, Burns 0, Gadd not out 5, Hall 3, McLaughlin 6, Ward 0, Lillywhite (4050) 0, Kerr 2: extras 6; total 54.

———:o:———

Football.

—o—

Band.—First Six v. *Next Eleven.*—This is the only match to chronicle during the month, which resulted in a win for the first team by 5 goals to *nil*.

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The Old Canteen.

One more glass at parting comrades,
One more toast before I go,
Let us drink the dear old regiment
As we used to long ago;
When we lay entrenched at Lucknow,
Or encamped at Singapore,
It is fifteen year come Christmas
Since I left the fine old corps.

There be only four among you,
Who were comrades with me then.
Bugler Blake and Tim the Tailor,
Sergeant Smith and Corporal Ben;
Gone or dead the dear old reg'ment,
Still I love it just the same,
As a fellow loves a tombstone,
Hallowed with his Mother's name.

It was only yester' morning,
As I walked the fields and plain,
That the young squire told me
"Farmer, your old reg'ment's back again,
They be stationed down at Chatham,"
So I left the fields and plough,
I was home at nine this morning,
Here I be at Chatham now.

For I says to Sally, "Sally!
It is fourteen year or more
Since my reg'ment left for India.
They are back the fine old corps;
My old Captain now's the Colonel,
I must go and see him lass,
I must go to meet my comrades,
We must drink a friendly glass."

But my Sally sighed and answered,
"You had better mind your plough,
I have told you dear so often
There's no need to tell you how:
That betwixt old friends and glasses
Many a sorrow we have seen,
If you go to meet your comrades,
Keep away from the old canteen."

No, I havn't done it mess-mates
For I answered softly "Sal,
I have ever done my duty
Go is my duty and I shall;
I'll be back by time ne'er fear me,
Firm of foot and hail of head,
Back in time to read my Bible
And to put our boy to bed."

Ha! you laugh. To read my Bible,
Well my hearties where's the joke,
Night and morn I always read it
And I love the dear old book;
I have found no friend in England
Truer to me since my birth,
And I owe more to my Bible
Than to any friend on earth.

Yes, I always read my Bible
If you like I'll tell you why,
First fill up your glasses comrades,
I would have you drain them dry,
Here's a health to "Our old Reg'ment"
Coupled with our glorious Queen,
Now if you would hear my story
'Tention! in the old canteen.

My old mother rest her spirit
Some few years before she died,
Just when I had listed comrades
Called me kindly to her side,
You are going to leave me Charlie
I have little left to give,
Save this old worn brass bound Bible,
May it teach you how to live.

It was once your soldier father's,
It was aye your father's pride
Dear, he loved it in his lifetime,
Dear, he loved it when he died;
Take it with your mother's blessing,
Prize it for your father's sake.
If my dear lad scorn its precepts
His old mother's heart would break.

Then she rose and placed it, bless her!
In the breast of the coat I wore
In the breast of the scarlet tunic,
And we sailed for Singapore;
We were stationed there a twelve month,
Many a gallant march we made
Last to Lucknow, where the sun lads
Stood a hundred in the shade.

There the children lay adying,
And the mothers watched them die,
For they couldn't move for weakness,
There above us glared the sky,
And the black boys howled upon us,
Through the smoke of shot and shell,
Like a swarm of swarthy devils,
Black deserters out of hell.

I was doing outpost duty,
Stricken by the sickening sun,
That I fainted and a comrade
Thought me dead and seized my gun;
But the bombshells bursting round me
Shook me from my swoon awake,
And I rose and lo! a sepoy,
Crouching near me like a snake.

Creeping cat like then upleapt he
With a yell and wild halloo,
With his hatchet raised to hack me
With his hatchet raised to hew,
While another sneaking devil
Crouched behind a heap of slain
With his rifle raised to shoot me
And I stood between the twain.

Bang! the bullet whizzed, I heard it
Pinging, whistling to my grave,
Struck me on the breast, the Bible,
The old book my mother gave
And the bullet bounded off it,
And before the blow was given
Split the hatchet, felled that sepoy
That's as true as God's in heaven.

That's my story, true as gospel,
And I often thinks, thinks I
If on earth it never failed me
Will it fail me chaps on high:
Surely not, leastways I'll trust it,
For my truest friend it's been
Good night Sergeant! good night Corporal
Good night to all in the old canteen,

THOS. DEVEREUX,

Late COLOR-SERGEANT,

Scots Guards.

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Indian Recollections.

—o—

From the "Civil & Military Gazette."

Part of our time in Inja, we lay in Mian Mir,
And found the duties of Fort Lahore, by roster for two year;
They gave us Native Troops to watch the Commissariat yard,
But in course it was we Britishers who furnished the Main Guard.

The Fort is not so bad ye know, the harm is in the town
Which lies beneath it, where the smells would almost knock you down.
There's Ranjit's Tomb, the Musjid, whose four tall towers are
Dressed on Jehangir's minarets over at Shalimar,
Him who conquered the world I mean, not him who keeps a bar.

II.

Higgins of "C," my pal, and me were good uns at the *bat*
We used to *baitho* with the sepoys, that's sit and 'ave a chat,
'Ho Johnny! *Acchhe hai? hither ao shrab pawnee hai*,"
That means "Come 'ere and 'ave a sup and wet your aiming eye"
We'ad to arsk them careful like, for some durs'nt drink nor eat,
And some 'ave never tasted boiled or roasted butcher's meat.
And some durs'nt touch tobacco, tho' they lets 'em 'ave a dram,
Some 'ave married sev'ral lawful wives, and others live on gram,
While some eat any bloomin' thing, 'cept sausages and ham.

III.

They are different *jats*, that's races, the Sikhs are big and tall,
The little Gurkha dress'd in green is the smallest o' the small,
The Paythan and the Dogra, the camel man with chits,
Sowars who like tent-pegging, and will give the Cossack fits.
They fight well with us, together, but they hate each other fair,
And try to get the upper, and that's how we keep out there.
The wee Gurkhas 'gainst the Dogras, and the Paythan on the Sikh,
The Muhammadan on the Pandee, that's him they say's so meek,
And the tribes beyond the Border who'll fight as soon as speak.

IV.

If in the Hills you're fittin best get Gurkhas to the front.
But if in the thorn-scrub levels, the Disciples of the Grunt;
If ye ever go to Herat, let the Native Cav'lry lead,
The guns and Foot Battalions next—ye've more than ye will need
Cossack Lance, or Russian Foot, or Turc'-man's sabre flight.
The kookerie, bayonet, talwar will put them three to flight,
And on our side the Paythans then would muster in their might—
Afridi, Baluch, Waziri, always spoilin' for a fight,
And if it's Russia wants one, sound the "Fall in" day or night.

V.

Bloomin' weary work for Tommy, tho' a waitin' for that day
In the heat and dust o' Inja, and Old England far away,
Typhoid and m'larial fever, and cholera's hard grip,
And never a gal to cuddle, nor a pub to have a rip.
There's *some* as likes it, and prefers a Mall to Regent Street,
But there's muffled drums for others, arms reversed, foremost their feet.
The ague's never left me since I invalided here,
To sit shivering in this workhouse with scarce no clothes to wear!
But when the First Reserve is called you bet that I'll be there!

ROUIN.

—:o:—

The Ninety-third and Fifty-third in the Mutiny.

—o—

THE *camaraderie* that existed between ours and the 53rd Light Infantry—now the 1st Battalion Shropshire Regiment—during the Mutiny campaign, is well known, but, according to James Cromb, the keenest friendly rivalry also existed, and he tells the following in illustration of this in his book *The Highland Brigade: Its Battles and Heroes*:—

"At the battle of Kalee Nudee, in which the attack was hotly and unexpectedly opened by the Nawab's men, the 53rd were pushed across in front to hold the bridge and relieve the pickets, while the head-quarters of the 93rd were held in reserve behind. After the conflict had gone on for some time, the 93rd were ordered to relieve the 53rd. 'But that gallant corps,' says Captain Burgoyne, 'could not brook the idea of being relieved in advance, and several of their number having been wounded during the day, they were determined also to have their revenge. On seeing the 93rd coming down towards the bridge to relieve them, they could no longer be restrained, but, with a pealing

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cheer, rose from their cover and dashed into the village (beyond the bridge) just as the enemy, smarting from an artillery fire, were beginning to retire in good order.'

"On went the 53rd, their bugles sounding the advance, and their officers, carried away with the stream, perfectly unable, even had they been willing, to restrain the advance of their men. The 93rd followed quick and eager behind. Hope Grant, with the cavalry, moved away to the left, and came crashing on the enemy's flank. Thus pushed in rear by the 53rd, who followed close up, and cut through by the cavalry, the rebel army—hitherto retiring in perfect order, covered by their light guns—broke and fled in haste in every direction. Gun after gun, standard after standard, fell into our possession, until coming night put an end to the pursuit.

"That advance of the 53rd was a daring act of disobedience, but had its origin in a gallant spirit; and the 93rd, free from all jealousy, could sympathise with the feeling which prompted it."

But Sir Colin, who was present, having gone down in the morning to see how the repair of the bridge was getting on, was terribly angry. He could not brook such a breach of discipline. His eyes blazing with passion, he rode up to the 53rd for the purpose of venting his displeasure. But the gallant fellows were equal to the occasion. As soon as he opened his mouth—led by an adventurous spirit—they shouted with all the strength of their lungs—"Three cheers for the Commander-in-Chief, boys." Again the irate General commenced his scolding, and again his voice was drowned with—"Three cheers for the Commander-in-Chief, boys." Once more he essayed to rebuke, and—"Three cheers for the Commander-in-Chief, boys," was the lustily shouted answer. At length, finding it impossible to obtain a hearing, the stern countenance which he had assumed for the occasion relaxed, and the veteran chief turned away with a laugh.

Letters to the Editor.

—o—

DEAR SIR,

Knowing the great interest you take in literature, I hasten to send you an extract of only ten words taken from one of those little books so frequently met with in barrack-rooms and rejoicing in the expressive, if not elegant, title of "Bloods." The extract is as follows: "She wept a bitter tear; then hastily drying her eyes." Now, Mr. Editor, I want to prove the utter absurdity of those words, or if the words are to be taken literally, then the lady in question must be one of the most marvellous beings ever heard of or seen. In the first place, she only wept one tear, for the phrase is "*a* bitter tear." I presume either that the lady had a vast amount of self-control, and as the tears welled up she exerted her power and only allowed one tear to be wept; or else, probably, it was in the hot season and water was very scarce, and then it was a bitter tear. Now, Mr. Editor, I have heard of "tears of joy," but even those tears are salt, therefore bitter. But the most amusing part follows, for she hastily dries her eyes. "Hastily" one can understand, for surely it cannot take half an hour to wipe away a single tear, however large the tear might be. Again the word "hastily" entirely disproves with the supposition that the event took place during the hot season, for in the hot season no one does anything hastily. But what amuses me is, she dries *her eyes*. You observe that the one tear dims both her eyes—how on earth is that? And yet if her eyes were not wet, she could not dry them, and no one would imagine, for a moment, that she was to exact a mathematician as to divide the tear so exactly as to get half the tear in each eye; and yet, if she did, I am inclined to the opinion that half a tear would count a whole tear, for the dictionary meaning of the word, taking Webster as the authority, is—"Tear; drop or small quantity of the limpid fluid secreted by the lachrymal gland and flowing from the eyes."

Hoping that you can enlighten me on the subject.

Believe me,

Yours truly,

"E DUNNO WHERE 'E ARE."

A NATIVE—"Are you a native of this Parish?" asked a Scotch Sheriff of a witness who was summoned to testify in case of illicit distilling.

"Maistly, yer honor," was the reply.

"I mean were you born in this Parish?"

"Na, yer honor: I was na born in the Parish, but I'm maist a native for a' that."

"You came here when you were a child, I suppose you mean?" said the Sheriff.

"Na, Sir, I am just here about sax year, noo."

"Then how do you come to be nearly a native of this Parish?"

"Well, ye see, whan I cam' here, sax year sin', I jist weighed eight stane, an' I'm fully seventeen stane the noo, sae ye see that about nine stane o' me belongs to this Parish and the ither eight cames frae Camlachie."

—:o:—

Of our regular army which numbers, including the reserve, 300,000 men, less than 4,000 are quartered in Scotland, whilst Ireland has 26,000 and England 78,000.

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Regimental Anecdotes.

—o—

"I DID BUT I WILL."

AN old soldier, named Rory McKenzie, who joined the Regiment somewhere in the forties, was known as a good, steady old hand who, like our late Sergeant-Major, dear old Dad Norton, could boast that he never had a defaulter's sheet, was one of those resolute matter-of-fact sort of fellows who would never drink in the early part of the day, but he dearly liked his dram, and could take it too. He always performed his duties in a strict and careful manner, and at night would take a liberal allowance and be up next morning as fresh as new paint. When the regiment was on the march (in India) it was the custom for the orderly sergeant to draw from the canteen the company's allowance of rum: this was carried by the arm-chest man in a copper *balti* to the head of the company's lines and issued to the men under the orderly sergeant's supervision. When Rory was orderly sergeant he would commence the issue by taking a dram to make sure that it was of proper quality, and occasionally would have an intermediate dram. At the termination of the issue there were generally three or four drams remaining, that is, if the issuer was an adept at manipulating the dram tot.

This remainder *might* be thrown out, but I don't *think* it was. On one occasion when Rory was superintending the issue, the Color-Sergeant of the company, happening to pass down the lines, said: "Did you drink, Rory?" Rory, with a twinkle in his eye, replied: "I did but I will."

I. T.

DEATHS.

Lawson.—At Dunfermline, Fifeshire, on the 12th March 1895, Mr. Thomas Lawson, late Ninety-third Highlanders, aged 66 years.

McBean.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 6th April, Agnes Maud, infant daughter of Private D. McBean, aged 6 months.

Beech.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 16th April, No. 3768, Private J. Beech, "B" Company, of enteric fever.

Morris.—At the Station Hospital, Fort, Lahore, on the 22nd April, No. 4598, Private J. Morris, "F" Company, of enteric fever.

Editorial.

—o—

WE are going to ask a question! How many readers of the *Thin Red Line* are there who have Volume I complete and wish to bind it? No doubt there are several who have regularly bought the paper and now would like their numbers bound, especially in a neat appropriate cover. Unfortunately we have a very few of the entire volume ourselves, owing to some months, especially April, selling almost out, and having put by no reserve we cannot bind as many as we would wish. However, if any of our readers have the volume complete, and wish to bind it, we can guarantee them a neat cloth cover with the present frontispiece blocked in gold for a sum of about two rupees.

* * * * * *

The following postal regulation will be welcomed by those of our readers—the majority—who are in the habit of sending their papers to friends either at Home or abroad.

POSTAL NOTICE.

ON and after the 1st May, stamped wrappers for newspapers and packets will be available for sale at all post offices, at the following rates:—

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H. M. KISCH,
Offg. Director-General of the Post Office of India.

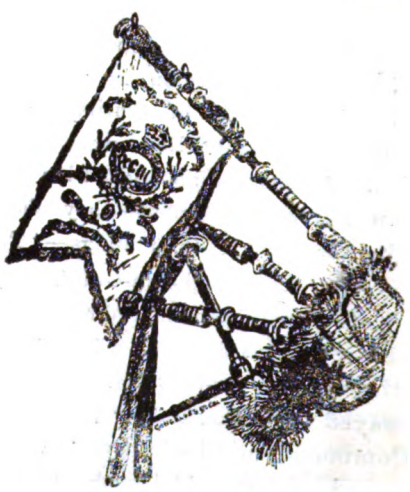
Calcutta, 15th April 1895.

Subscriptions.

—o—

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions for one year from the following:—

Colonel Cuninghame, Belmont, Ayr.
Band Sergeant Peggie.
Private McFarlane (two subscriptions).



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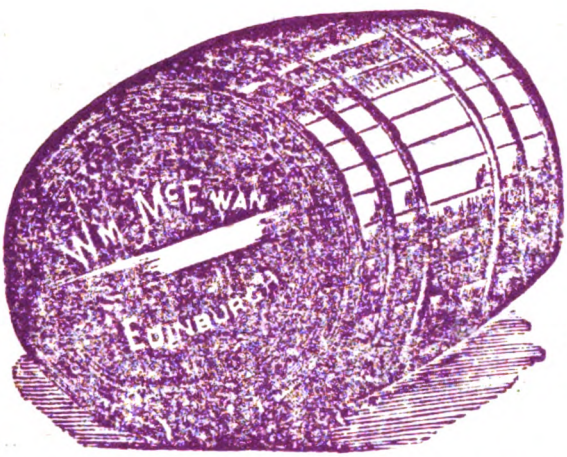

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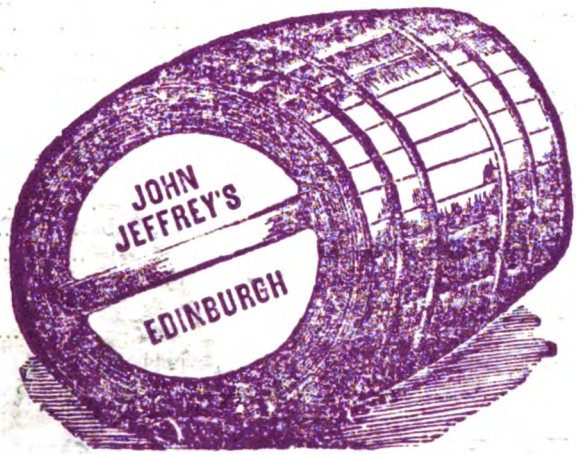

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Colonel Tyacke, Kuka	100
Private W. Halliday, Seaforth Highlanders, Dalhousie	100
Sergeant J. Seal, 21st Hussars, Trimulgherry	25
Private W. Bhangan, 21st Light Infantry, Ranikhet	25
Surgeon-Captain Macnamara, Multan	100
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Sergeant Geo. Stanley, 18th Hussars, Umballa	25
„ G. Houlden, Gordon Highlanders, Campbellpore	25
Private S. W. Harvey, 1st East Surrey Regiment, Agra	25
„ E. Price, Northumberland Fusiliers, Kailana	50
Lance-Corporal P. Lande, Lucknow	25
„ R. Jones, Mussoorie	25
Lieutenant A. F. Fergusson, Dera Ismail Khan	55
„ A. E. Dullege, 2nd Northumberland Fusiliers, Benares	100
Sergeant Trapnell, R. H. A., Gurgaon	25
„ Fancross, No 3 Mountain Battery, R. A., Rawalpindi	25
Private E. Bartlett, Oxford Light Infantry, Bareilly	25
Corporal Wimble, Somerset Regiment, Sabathu	25
Private F. Quartermain, Jullundur	100
Sergeant Arnold, Madras	50
W. S. Pim, Royal Irish Fusiliers, Allahabad	25
Captain Eales, Jullundur	25
Corporal J. W. Palmes, 8th Field Battery, Jhansi	50
Lance-Corporal Jas. Paisley, 1st Somerset Regiment, Sabathu	50
M. Tweedie, Esq., 93rd Highlanders, Miau Mir	100
Sergeant Farrier Scholes, 21st Hussars, Trimulgherry	50
Officer Commanding 11th Bengal Lancers, Nowshera	100
Driver G. Keith, H. Battery, R. H. A., Kasauli	25

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"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.)
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The XXV" (30th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regt.)
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"The Tiger and Sphinx" (75th Gordon Highlanders).
"The 79th News" (79th Cameron Highlanders).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"Army Service Corps Journal."
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
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"The Man of the World."
"The Celtic Monthly."
"John O'Groat Journal."
"The Seventh Regiment Gazette" (7th N. Y. N. G.)

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"C" " —Lance-Corporal Kettles.
"D" " — " " Rankin.
"E" " — " " Pendergast.
"F" " — " " Brodie.
"G" " —Private Buckland.
"H" " —Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Private Gadd.
Dalhousie Depôt—Lance-Corporal Forbes.

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Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contribution should be written clearly in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

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OF THE

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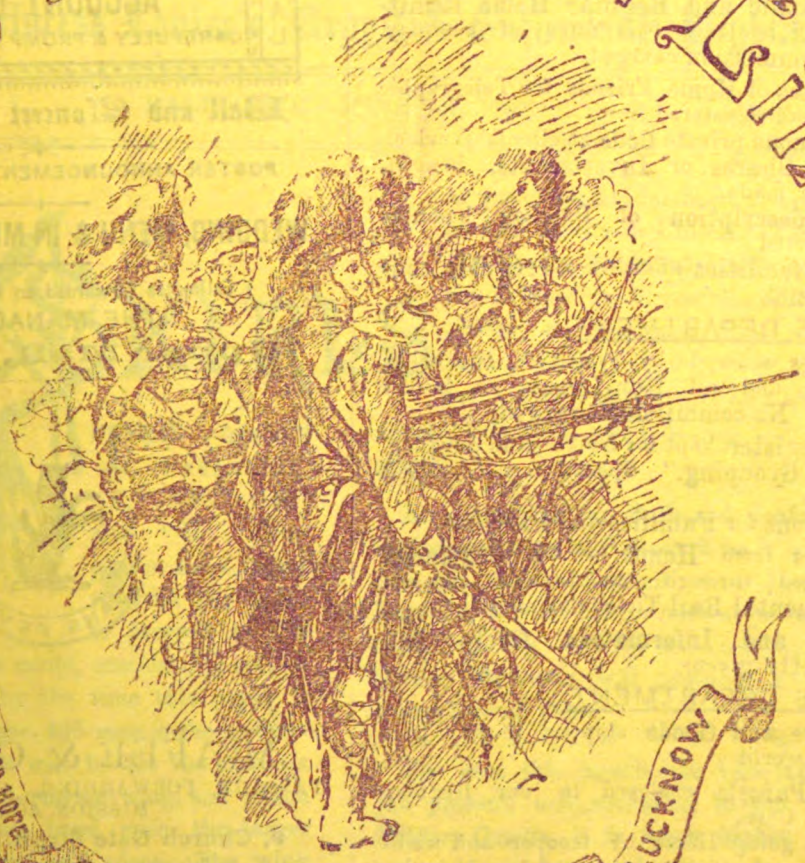

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 6.—Vol. II. DALHOUSIE,—JUNE 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE left-half battalion, "E," "F," "G" and "H" Companies, have at last received the order to proceed to the hills, and will be, no doubt, comfortably settled down at Dalhousie by the time this paper is published. As last year, 456 men is the authorized strength of what will be for the next six months or so the head-quarter wing, and which of course includes the band with the larger portion of the drums and pipes. The wing will as last year occupy the camp on Ticca Spur.

* * * * * *

Also as last year two companies of the Border Regiment from Multan go up to Mankote, whilst their band is detailed for duty at Dalhousie, instead of the band of the Seaforth Highlanders as was originally intended, the latter being on field service in Chitral. The band of the Border Regiment will occupy the band camp on Sonnatalla Hill, and will relieve our musicians of a considerable amount of duty in the shape of playing out at the tennis courts and the various dances that take place during the Dalhousie season.

* * * * * *

At present as the Buffs and Seaforth Highlanders are away at Chitral there is accommodation for two and-a-half more companies at Mankote, but no orders have as yet been issued regarding this, and the two companies of the Border Regiment will probably be the only troops located there.

* * * * * *

The heat this month has been intense up to the present, and, according to the *Civil and Military Gazette*, it is much higher than the average for the corresponding season of former years. The average has usually been from 83° to 88°, but that higher figure is below that registered at the present time, the figure sometimes being as high as 94°.

* * * * * *

As may be expected the cantonment has a very dry and parched appearance, and there is a

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large accumulation of dust upon the roads which, when a wind rises, does not add very much either to the beauty of the country or the pleasure of travelling. As a matter of fact, however, few can be seen out of their bungalows during the day, except those whose duty it is to draw the mid-day lotion from the canteen (this is done in cans supplied for the purpose, in which it is taken to the bungalows and issued to the thirsty individuals who possess the necessary), or the much abused punkah coolie, who can be dimly seen under his straw shelter giving the punkah lever the minimum of "kinching" compatible with moving it at all. The sentries of the quarter-guard are about the only other animate objects that can be seen, and they pass their two hours "sentry go" as best they can in the meagre shelter afforded by the verandah, scorched with the hot air that with almost furnace heat comes over the *maidan* in front of the guardroom and blinking at the glare outside and the hot vapour that dances in seemingly countless eddies before their eyes.

* * * * * *

Here are some of Thomas Atkins' Chitral nicknames according to the *Civil and Military Gazette*:—

The "Chitral Too-late for Relief Force"; the "Immoveable Column" at Abbottabad; "Umra can't" because he ran away; the "Sweat" river, which was so difficult to cross; and the "Dear Khan," who has captured all our enemies for us.

* * * * * *

According to the same source it has been practically settled that no more local meetings will be held in connection with the Bengal Presidency Rifle Association.

* * * * * *

"A" have been the first company to finish their musketry course for 1895 and have fairly satisfactory results, the average for the company being 134·20 and up to the present there are no third class shots amongst those completed. Sergeant J. Hay is the best shot in the company, Lance-Corporal Hansen being second and taking the prize, whilst twelve others wear "crossed rifles worked in worsted." The field firing percentage is 58·00.

Second Lieutenant Ronald Stewart, of the Seaforth Highlanders, late of ours, has unfortunately been bitten by a rabid dog. He has left for Paris for treatment, which it is to be hoped may prove efficacious.

* * * * * *

The severe heat has caused heat apoplexy to pay an earlier visit than last year, and it has already secured two victims. By the death of Lance-Corporal Bell the regiment has lost one of its best and most reliable shots, for of the eleven courses of musketry which he fired with his company ("A") he was seven times company shot, and invariably made a good score. Corporal Bell at the time of his death had nearly completed twelve years' service, he having enlisted in August 1883. Of the others whose deaths we have the misfortune to chronicle all, with one exception, are twelve years' men. Private Green's death is a severe blow to "B" Company, as he was one of the best wicket-keepers in the battalion and did his company yeomen service during their late successful season.

* * * * * *

We learn from the *Aldershot News* that the 2nd Black Watch football team were entertained during their stay at Aldershot for the final of the Army Cup by the Sergeants of our first battalion in regal style; unfortunately they were not successful, but fell before the R. A. (Portsmouth).

* * * * * *

Definite orders regarding the movement of the left-half battalion to the hills were received early in the month, and Sunday, 12th May, was definitely fixed as the day of departure. An advance party of 20 men with the Quartermaster proceeded on Friday evening from Mian Mir East Railway Station *en route* to Pathankote to take over camp equipment, and on Sunday evening about eight o'clock the special troop train steamed out of the rest camp station with head-quarters, consisting of "E," "F," "G" and "H" Companies, and the band bound for the same destination. As a send-off a heavy duststorm sprang up just before the wing paraded and smothered all and everything.

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"H" Company and the detachment Border Regiment, who marched up to Dalhousie a day behind headquarters, had a sing-song in camp at Pathankote on the night before leaving, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

* * * * * *

A temperance correspondent writes:—

"The Good Templars and Rechabites received a very welcome invitation to tea in the Iron Church on the evening of the wing's arrival at Dalhousie, which was eagerly accepted, and a goodly number sat down to a most excellent tea at half-past seven in the evening of the 18th May. A capital concert followed the tea, and all enjoyed themselves to the utmost."

"Up to the present the Rechabites have held a couple of meetings, but as yet have made no more additions to their number, whilst the 'Pride of Sutherland' Lodge, who have changed their night of meeting to Mondays, boast of a few recruits after having lost some young hands on the march, where the thirst was great and mineral waters were scarce."

* * * * * *

The Queen's Birthday parade this year took place on the depôt parade-ground, to which the wing marched, where it was joined by the convalescents and the detachment, Border Regiment, from Mankote. The line, with massed bands in rear, formed up in front of the depôt guard-room just after 8 o'clock and fired the usual salute, followed by three cheers, after which the various detachments marched to their parades. Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh was in command of the parade.

* * * * * *

On Monday, 27th May, the wing paraded for inspection by the General Officer Commanding, forming up at 6-30 A.M. on the road in front of the drill-shed. General Wolseley arrived about seven o'clock, and passed down the lines making a minute inspection. After this the companies marched to their lines independently and stood to their cots, whilst the General inspected the camp and expressed himself very well satisfied with what he saw.

* * * * * *

Our regimental signallers who left last month to join the moveable column of the Chitral Relief Force have been temporarily attached to No. 7, Mountain Battery, R. A., and their present address is Kala Bagh.

* * * * * *

Appearances seem to be against our Regimental Football team showing up at the Durand Tournament this year, for as yet no attempt has been made to organise the team or start practice. Most of the likely players, too, are on the plains, where there is little chance of sport, and everything suggests that the "Rories" will not visit Annandale during 1895. This is a great pity, and looks like showing the "white feather." *Sic transit gloria.*

* * * * * *

Dalhousie weather during the last month has been what the Yankees aptly term "samples"—now a hailstorm, and now, to remind one of Mian Mir, a wave of heat and a sudden abnormal rise in the temperature. The *chota barsat* may be soon expected, and then all can settle down to the enviable existence of a monsoon under canvas.

Most justly, the poet has it—

"There's cold and chills among the hills;"

and the Mian Mir wallahs need not be jealous.

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To Dalhousie Again.

—o—

ON Sunday, May 12th, at 7 P.M., the left-half battalion and last two breezes paraded for the purpose of going to Dalhousie. The usual confusion took place entraining, but being only a question of time finally all got seated, and after the necessary amount of swearing and shouting the train got under way.

Travelling was not more comfortable than troop trains usually are, and no one was sorry when we formed up on Pathankote Station.

Of course fatigue was the order of the day, but everything must come to an end, and in the afternoon the troops stretched themselves out to enjoy a well-earned rest.

The march up-country calls for very little special mention, one great and good point though being the absence of the married people, and another novel feature was marching by night, though unfortunately the moon did not rise till about 3 A.M., consequently there was a certain amount of unavoidable confusion on commencing the march. Tents were always struck at 6 P.M., and by 7 o'clock all, or nearly all, the baggage had left the camping ground, and getting such a good start the baggage guard always had tents pitched and everything in readiness for the incoming of the half battalion.

The journey was divided into the usual five marches,—camps at Sharpur, Dhar, Duniera and Nania Khud,—and considering everything there was very little falling out among the troops. The commissariat arrangements were all that could be desired; there was a fair amount of lemonade, and last, but certainly not least, the beer did not run short.

Dalhousie was reached about 6 A.M. on Saturday the 18th May, by the first party, the whole of which day was spent in pitching tents, fatigues, &c., whilst "H" Company who marched with the Borders, arrived the next day, and it was only on Monday that things began to look a bit square and one could look round and think.

"F" Company occupies the site of "D" Company last year, "E" that of "C," whilst "H" and "G" lie on the low square formerly occupied by "A" and "B." On arriving the effects of the change of air became apparent, and the holding capacity of the hospital here became tested to its utmost.

MAC.

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

THAT a certain non-commissioned officer must be studying for the Meteorological Department.

That when on guard he showed the *percentage* of heat.

That heat apoplexy has taken some good men.

That it's cousin has gone to Dalhousie.

That it wishes him good luck.

That it's going to chance the plains.

That the leave taking was impressive.

That it was so sorry to part.

That orderly corporals perform their duties on wheels.

That the idea is a capital one.

That there doesn't seem to be any intention of going to Simla this year.

That this is a pity.

That it turned out strong for the birthday parade.

That the latest on the "barrel" is:—"Have you seen O'Hara?"

That it's looking for O'Hara itself.

That it wants to know the two hospital orderlies that expect to "quiff the boat."

That it's afraid the signallers won't get a medal.

That it only wants a white umbrella to complete its summer kit.

That it has already taken to goggles.

That it's not getting many nights in bed.

That it's stoking up.

That it has been 115° in the shade.

WHAT ITS DALHOUSIE COUSIN SAYS.

That a sling took a trick on the march.

That it saw more than one.

That it marched at night.

That it is down with fever and ague.

That there have been one or two rough nights.

That the days have almost been as rough.

That it is hot even for the Hills.

That the General has been round the camp.

That he appeared well pleased.

That gardening is becoming popular.

That the band are not for Kajiar this season.

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Right Wing Notes at Mian Mir.

THE first few days or so after the wing's departure seemed to pass rather strangely, the lines wearing a most deserted appearance; duty men, too, were so scarce that employed men had to be taken on the "nights-in-bed," whilst "A" Company suspended musketry for a few days to ease the guard duties of the other companies. Now, however, things are beginning to settle down; and although the temperature appears to be increasing—it registered 115° in the shade at Lahore on the 15th—the heat is not yet unbearable, whilst the mornings and evenings are very pleasant. Sentries on guard are allowed to wear goggles and shades on their helmets, and everything possible is being done for the general comfort of the troops.

Non-commissioned officers are rather scarce considering the duties that have to be performed, only five sergeants and as many corporals being available; but a few provisional promotions have been made, and as long as the sick reports remain clear things may be expected to go on smoothly. The health at present is very good, and it is to be hoped that it will remain so.

Early on the morning following the departure of head-quarters, the detachment, 2nd Border Regiment, arrived *en route* for Mankote. The detachment consisted of two companies and the band, and occupied the bungalows vacated by "F" and "G" Companies; they paraded soon after four o'clock the same afternoon, and left the rest camp for Pathankote by 6 P.M. train. During their stay the sergeants were entertained to breakfast and tiffin bythe sergeants of the wing.

The Queen's Birthday parade on the 26th quite broke the monotony of existence, and the wing under Major Campbell turned out in full strength, taking the right of the infantry line. Pioneer Sergeant Maxwell had erected a flag-staff in front of the guard-room, from which the Union Jack floated most gallantly, facing which the troops in garrison formed up in line gave the royal salute, fired the *feu de joie* and cheered right heartily. Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce, 19th Bengal Lancers, was in command of the parade, and besides his own regiment there were present the 24th and 46th Field Batteries, R. A., detachment of the 3rd Bengal Infantry, 20th and 28th Punjab Infantry and 34th Pioneers, and last, but not least, ourselves. The same morning another company of the Border Regiment arrived and were domiciled in "C" Company's bungalow, whilst the following day another company arrived, rested until the evening, when both proceeded to Dalhousie to complete the garrison at Mankote; with this party eighteen of ours travelled—men of the last draft and left half battalion who were in hospital when head-quarters left for the hills.

The following wing appointments have been made:—

To be Acting Sergeant-Major.—No. 413 Color-Sergeant T. Spedding, "A" Company.

To be Orderly Room Sergeant.—No. 3554 Corporal J. Williamson, "D" Company.

To be Acting Quarter Master Sergeant.—No. 2156 Sergeant W. White, "C" Company.

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To be Provisional Corporals.—No. 3247, Lance-Corporal J. McKimm, "B" Company; No. 4262, Lance-Corporal H. Langdon, "C" Company; and No. 3411, Lance-Corporal T. Smith, "D" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 3916, Piper R. Anderson, "A" Company.

:o:

The Origin of Army Shaving.

—o—

FEW of our readers may be aware that the time-honoured practice of shaving in the army has its origin, not, as may be imagined, in cleanliness, comfort, or even smartness,—for all will own that a "chin new reaped" has many advantages over a shaggy beard, but, strange as it may seem, is merely a survival of the ancient custom of mutilating slaves. Sir Herbert Maxwell tells us that previous to the introduction of Christianity slitting noses and boring the ears of slaves was most popularly indulged in, but with its advent milder measures were introduced, and a close crop and clean shave became the recognised badge of servitude. The British Army appear to have been the modern pioneers of clean shaving, though Alexander the Great is said to have abolished beards in the Macedonian Army because they gave a vantage hold to the enemy. At any rate, the Peninsular battles were won by a clean shaven army, and it was not until the reign of William IV that British Infantry were allowed to wear any hirsute appendage. Even then it only took the form of "a tidy little tuft under each ear." Since then, however, emancipation from this barbarous survival has taken place, and our warriors of 1854 met the Russians with whiskers "trained as low as a line drawn between the lobe of the ear and the corner of the mouth," whilst the cavalry indulged in a flowing moustache as well. During the short peace that followed "moustaches were deemed essential in all branches of the service," and for sometime after the Mutiny only a small space, of the breadth of four fingers on the chin, was required to be shaved—a style still affected by some of our Purbeah Sepoys. For the last twenty years or so, however, only moustaches have been considered necessary for the brave defenders of their native country, and pipers and pioneers alone are allowed to cultivate a beard.

An Instance of Bravery.

—o—

THE following act of bravery performed by a private of the Ninety-third during the Mutiny is recorded by Dr. Munro. He says:—"While we were advancing on the Dilkoosha, the elephants with the hospital tents were carried off by a party of the enemy and driven within a walled sarai. The Quartermaster (Mr. Joyner) having been informed of this, and the place where the elephants were pointed out to him, determined to recover them. He was accompanied by Private McDonald of the regiment. As they approach the enclosure the enemy (eight or ten in number) concealed themselves in a room near the gateway; seeing no enemy Mr. Joyner and the private entered the enclosure, and while making signs (they could not speak a word of Hindi) to the mahouts to take the elephants out, a flight of bullets whistled round them. While the elephants were passing out, Mr. Joyner desired McDonald to go out with them, and that when all had got out safely he himself would follow, ready to defend himself with his revolver; but the man declined to go first or to leave the Quartermaster for a moment, declaring 'that it was not the custom in the regiment for a soldier to look after his own safety and leave an officer in danger.' Mr. Joyner then ordered him to go, but the man refused to obey, saying, 'I will leave this place with you, or stay and die with you.' Even after he was shot through the hand and the stock of his rifle was broken, he refused to try to escape before his officer. Fortunately just then a party of the 4th Punjab Rifles appeared, who burst open the door and made short work of the enemy."

HE WON THE RACE IF NOT THE BATTLE.—When Sir John Cope fled from Dunbar, after his defeat by the Highland army at Prestonpans, the fleetness of his horse carried him foremost, upon which a sarcastic Scotsman complimented him by saying: "Deed, sir, but ye hae won the race: win the battle wha like."

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The Highlanders Stood.

—o—

(*The Thin Red Line at Balaclava.*)

WILL the Highlanders stand when our foemen assail us?
Ah, God! if they do, they are sealing our doom.
Our best and our bravest, yet they, too, may fail us—
The lads of the kilt, and the plaid, and the plume.
Will the Highlanders stand? Can they vanquish our foemen?
We cannot support them, tho' gladly we would.
Will they flee from their post, or right fearlessly show men
How the Highlanders stand? And the Highlanders stood.

The Turks in retreat. Balaclava in danger;
Each Briton looked on with a heart full of woe;
Tho' in fight ne'er a coward, to battle no stranger,
Each dreaded the thought of success to the foe.
We knew, ah! too well, how our country would blame us
Were we to succumb to the Steppe's shaggy brood.
We knew we must perish if Cossacks o'ercame us
And the Highlanders failed. But the Highlanders stood.

Ay! the Highlanders stood, though so wildly careering
The Cossacks came down like a bolt from the blue;
Ay! the Highlanders stood, still undaunted, ne'er fearing,
'Gainst foemen unnumbered, where friends were so few.
Ay! the Highlanders stood, tho' the Turks now were driven
From fort and redoubt, and from shelter-trench good;
Tho' wildly their cries were ascending to Heaven
For succour and mercy, the Highlanders stood.

The battle seemed over, the Turks had retreated;
Our foemen right proudly came galloping on,
As victors they rode, undismayed, undefeated,
Their steel was untried, but their foeman had gone.
But ah! who are they who, so fearless, are braving
The Czar's proudest horsemen, his Cossacks so rude?
Ay! whose are the plumes that so gaily are waving
In Russia's face? There the Highlanders stood.

They stood, tho' the Czar's fiercest troops were before them.
The Lancer, Dragoon, and the gaudy Hussar;
They stood, and no foeman e'er carcoled o'er them,
No cowards were they, and no tyros in war.
They stood, tho' their foeman so gallant and dashing
Were clearing the field as a harvester would,
Tho' sabre and lance in the sunlight were flashing,
Unconquered and dauntless, the Highlanders stood.

Ay! the Highlanders stood, tho' so wildly around them
Their foemen were brandishing sabre and lance;
Aye ready and fearless their foeman have found them.
And clear in the sunlight their bayonets glance.
Ay! the Highlanders stood. In the van they were standing,
Where Britain *must* stand, and where none may intrude
Our foemen ne'er yet on our shores have been landing.
And ne'er have they conquered where Highlanders stood.

Scottish Nights.

Advice to those Wishing to Enlist.

—o—

TO all who are going to 'list, and who are not going to 'list, list to me! The army is a fine institution, ranging downward, from privates to Commander-in-Chief. To all who are going to 'list, 'list as an officer, but be sure you 'list senior to the Adjutant, then you will not be for parade before breakfast.

If you 'list as a private, your pay of 8d. is increased daily by a pound (sometimes of bread, sometimes of stone).

If you 'list as an officer, your pay is 5/3 to start with, and, as expenses is 10/6, if you are careful you can soon retire on your savings.

Your first duty as a soldier is to get all you can and to spend it as soon as you get it.

One of the great advantages of the army is that they keep you to the good old maxim of—early to bed, early to rise, soups, stews, boils, bakes, and sea pies.

If you are a good shot, don't show it, or you will miss a great treat in not being allowed to attend the Adjutant's garden party.

If you are a good footballer, show it, and you won't be for coal fatigue.

Gymnastics is one of the finest institutions in the army; if it wasn't for them the hospitals would be kept idle, and you would not be able to get free medical attendance at 7d. per day.

Should you go in for promotion and rise to be orderly man, be good to the privates, and the privates will be good to you. It is a great advantage being orderly man, as you are first out of bed in the morning and last in at night; and when you are making out the dinners, be sure you make a big one out for yourself, or the others will look upon you as a mug.

Now come the most important duties of a soldier, *viz.*, on guard:—

Never go on guard if you can help it: get on garrison employ and stick there.

Always get second relief, then you won't carry the pack.

Never take tobacco on guard, as the sergeant is supposed to supply you with it.

Always give up your orders in Japanese, then the officer won't know if you are right or wrong.

Make chums with the corporal (he serves out the cheese).

Never put a man in the clink for drunk, unless he tries to light his pipe at the pump.

My last advice is, always 'list in time of peace, as war is bad for the health; also go in for a pension, or you will have to work, and work is as bad as war as it makes you so dreadfully tired.

Now I will conclude by hoping that all who have read this will enlist either in the British Army or the Salvation Army.

H. H.

In the Tiger and Rose.

SCOTTISH VISION.—Two sharp youths from the south, while enjoying themselves among the heather in Argyllshire, met with a decent looking shepherd upon the top of a hill. They accosted him by remarking:—

"You have a fine view here, friend; you will be able to see a great way."

"Ou, ay—ou, ay, a ferry great way."

"Ah! you'll see America from here?"

"Further than that," said Donald."

"Indeed!"

"Ou, ay; juist wait till the mist gaes awa', an' ye'll see the mune!"

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The Subaltern.

(From a Young Lady's Point of View.)

—o—

THE subaltern is an animal that is to be found in great profusion over the whole of India. His principal occupation is defending his country. But, when he is not doing this, he has a number of smaller pursuits which serve to stamp him as a distinct species. He is devoted to stalking. He will stalk anything, from deer to young ladies; indeed, it is impossible to judge from his conversation which quarry he prefers. He will even stalk a tiger at a distance, or up a tree—of course. He makes a fair amateur banjo-player, artist, lover, rider; in fact, he is good at most of these light and airy occupations. In one thing he can beat most professionals. I allude to the art of dancing. The subaltern is easily recognised. Look carefully at the first you meet, and you will never be able to mistake him again. Note the straw hat, the dainty boots, the neat little cane, and, above all, the air of supreme satisfaction with himself, the country he is defending, and world in general. It is an astonishing fact, but this really is the British Army, before which the world trembles. His reverence for his superiors is well-known; but it is treason to laugh at the contempt with which a subaltern, who came out five marks ahead of the rest, regards his less fortunate fellows.

The subaltern is, perhaps, seen at his best if you catch him at a venture, and make him join a Shakespeare reading society. He has heard of Shakespeare before, but has never read him. His unfeigned delight in the beauties of the play shows what a critic has been lost in the soldier. He is prolific of new readings, that could occur to no one else. We have in view one enthusiastic subaltern who made a famous passage end with a reference to his "little wife" as "rounded with sleep." The printed texts have "life" here. The improvement is obvious. He tolerates men of other professions, but is sorry for them. His own arduous duties are over by 9 A.M., when these poor beggars are beginning their work. Nobody knows how he gets through the day. We are left to conjecture. He can't sleep. No known species can sleep for twenty-four hours in a day, though subs and cats are believed to beat the record in this. There are reasons, at which we shall only hint, for believing that he does not spend the time in reading. His fine complexion proves that he really remains in-door. He must take refuge in the thoughts of bouty, which are known to be long, and which, in the sub's case, apparently extend from 10 A.M. to 4 in the afternoon. At 4 he arises, and makes ready for conquest. A young lady can, of course, judge of the next hour's work only by the result, which is generally perfect.

We hope the foregoing has not been too hard upon the subaltern (fortunately he is not thin-skinned). For we desire to close with the remark that, of all pleasant companions, he is often the pleasantest. He is not conceited, and the young lady likes a companion who is more concerned with enjoying her society than with making her enjoy his. This the sub generally does; and she accordingly prefers him to the learned man or the young civilian. She has also a motherly feeling for him. He is so young.

If by any device or knowledge,
The sub his sweetness could know,
He'd remain a sub for ever,
Nor into a major grow.

Yes: subs are delightful, and the present writer is free to confess that this hill-station, whose name she hopes the editor will impart with prudence, would be vastly improved by the arrival of a few on a well-earned holiday.—*The Dragon.*

—:o:—

His Backsheesh.

ONE day, says a writer of English military experiences, a heavy gun stuck in the muddy bottom of a stream, and the tandem elephant was unhooked to shove behind, or lift the muzzle of the gun with his trunk. But he would not; he only bellowed and swayed uneasily, shifting from one foot to the other in the sticky mud. At last, with a piteous shrill trumpeting, he touched the sharp point of the iron right on the muzzle. "He says he is afraid of hurting himself, sahib," explained the mahout. "Well," answered the officer in jest, "tell him to spoke the wheel." "Promise him backsheesh, sahib, and he will." "Very well." The elephant carefully found a securer footing, curled his trunk round a lower spoke, and made the wheel revolve; then the shaft elephant put in his ponderous weight, and the gun slowly rose out of the mud and rolled up the opposite bank. The triumphant mahout demanded backsheesh for his Hooshiar Hathi (wise elephant). "You scamp! You want the backsheesh for yourself." "No, sahib, I dare not cheat him; and if you don't give him backsheesh, he will remember you are no gentleman, and will never work for you again." "All right," said the officer, tossing the man a couple of rupees in succession. "How shall I know you don't cheat him?" "Come and see him fed this evening, sahib." That evening, by moonlight, the officer was summoned to see Hooshiar Hathi eat his supper. The elephant was swaying to and fro, fanning himself with a branch, and round the fire stood huge chupatties—flat cakes of flour, butter and sugar—purchased with the backsheesh for the Hooshiar's supper. The mahout took up one of these cakes and offered it to the wise one, who weighed it carefully in his trunk, and then deposited it, with a satisfied smack, in his raw-looking mouth. "Now, sahib, this second chupattie is light weight, see him find it out." The elephants are accustomed to a certain ration weight, and, when the Hooshiar took this cake by the edge, an angry twinkle came into his wicked little eye, and quick as lightning, he slapped the mahout in the face with the leathery mass. "See, sahib," cried the man in glee, "I dare not cheat him!" And he picked himself up and offered a larger chupattie. "Here, you foolish one! Did I ever cheat you? This one is overweight." The elephant understood and ate in forgiving tranquillity.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM LONDON GAZETTE.

(Princess Louise's) Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.—2nd Lieutenant H. C. MacDonald to be Lieutenant, *vice* Lieutenant A. Sutherland, appointed Adjutant.

PROMOTION.

To be Corporal.—No. 3531 Lance-Corporal F. C. Marks, "H" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 3787 Private J. Stevens and No. 4143 Private C. Charters, "F" Company.

To be Garrison Provost Sergeant—No. 2529 Sergeant Donald Blair, "E" Company.

To be Garrison Provost Corporal.—No. 3686 Lance-Corporal Staring, "E" Company.

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

The following are taken on the Paid Establishment of their rank:—

No. 2672 Lance-Corporal McLachlan, "C" Company, and No. 1586 Lance-Corporal H. McPake, "F" Company.

EMPLOYMENT.

As Garrison Provosts.—No. 3425 Private G. Lock and 4001 Private H. Crown, "E" Company; No. 2956 Private C. McCulloch and No. 3504 Private G. Townley, "G" Company.

In Paymaster's Office.—No. 3765 Private W. Weller, "F" Company, as assistant clerk.

In Quartermaster's Office.—No. 4654 Private C. Bennie, "G" Company, as assistant clerk.

TRANSFERS.

From "H" to "C" Company.—No. 2706 Corporal J. Willis.

From "E" to "F" Company.—No. 3470 Piper T. Brown.

CERTIFICATES.

No. 4047 Private J. Williams, "E" Company, granted Government Telegraphy Certificate.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem:—

"A" *Company.*

No. 3043 Private J. Mitchell.

"D" *Company.*

No. 3117 Private W. Downey.

"E" *Company.*

No. 3127 Lance-Corporal Pendergast.

"G" *Company.*

No. 2848 Private J. Stewart. | No. 2781 Private H. Allan.
No. 2988 Private W. Harley.

Granted 1d. per diem:—

"A" *Company.*

No. 4773 Private A. Wilson.

"B" *Company.*

No. 3740 Private A. Dobson. | No. 4780 Private A. Hope.
No. 4696 Private J. Thompson.

Restored 1d. per diem:—

"C" *Company.*

No. 3871 Private J. Cowan. | No. 2812 Private D. McIntosh.

"G" *Company.*

No. 3831 Private A. Buckland.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

BAND AND CASUALS.

	£	s.	d.
No. 3054 Private E. Miller, "F" Company... ...	0	12	0
,, 4344 ,, J. Burns, "D" ,, ...	0	9	0
,, 1484 Corporal A. Watters, "C" ,, ...	0	7	6
,, 3665 Private H. Brotherton, "G" ,, ...	0	7	6
Commanding Best Shooting Section.			
No. 1356 Private J. Brown, "D" Company ...	0	4	6
Commanding Second Best Section.			
No. 1484 Corporal A. Watters, "C" Company ...	0	2	3

———:O:———

DEATHS.

DOCHERTY.—At the Station Hospital, Fort Lahore, on the 7th ultimo, No. 3893 Private T. Docherty, "C" Company, of enteric fever.

MELVILLE.—At the Station Hospital, Fort Lahore, on the 10th ultimo, No. 1832 Corporal W. Melville, "C" Company, of dysentery.

MCKEAN.—At Toronto, Canada, on the 22nd March, Mr. Robert McKean, of Dalkeith, Mid Lothian, late of the Ninety-third Highlanders, in his 84th year.

BELL.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 11th ultimo, No. 869 Lance-Corporal J. Bell, "A" Company, of heat apoplexy.

MCPHERSON.—At the Station Hospital, Dagshai, on the 17th ultimo, No. 2697 Lance-Corporal J. McPherson, "A" Company, of inflammation of the cerebral membrane.

GREEN.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 19th ultimo, No. 2461 Private J. Green, "B" Company, of intermittent fever.

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Some Sentry Stories.

—o—

CONNECTED with the military duty known as "sentry-go," occur from time to time some curious incidents containing both tragic and comic elements.

We are all familiar with the romantic episode of the Roman sentinel who would not quit his post in Pompeii, despite the choking ashes and molten lava. His noble regard for duty and discipline has had, in different ways, not a few counterparts in more modern times.

Once when George III. was parading the terrace at Windsor with the Duke of York, both rested their arms on the sun-dial there and engaged in conversation with some gentlemen. During this parley, a sentinel upon duty walked up to the King and requested him to move from the dial as it was under his particular charge. His Majesty removed accordingly, observing, at the same time, that the man's rigid adherence to his orders was highly commendable; and a few hours afterwards he was graciously pleased to recommend him to the colonel of the regiment as one worthy of promotion, and one who ought to be provided for in as eligible a manner as the nature of the service would admit.

A Russian sentry was equally faithful to his trust during a sudden inundation of St. Petersburg. The Empress seeing from her balcony that the water came within reach of the sentinel placed before the palace, called out to him to retire within doors, which the soldier refused to do. The sentinel had to explain that no one but his corporal could relieve him. The waters increased and reached his knees. In vain did the Empress exhort him to quit his post, so it became necessary to call the corporal, who was found asleep in the guard-house, and he was almost obliged to swim to relieve the faithful private, who by that time had only his head and shoulders above water, and would composedly have suffered himself to be drowned, notwithstanding the formal and repeated orders of his Sovereign.

Excess of zeal in the service, on the other hand, especially in times of peace, may lead to painful results, as in the recent case when a German sentinel shot a citizen dead, who, in a drunken freak, had reviled him.

On another occasion it was proved that the sport of chaffing a soldier in Germany is not one which an inhabitant of the Empire can indulge in with much freedom. A young student was arrested there for "snapping his fingers" at a military picket. For this heinous offence he was being conducted to the police-station, when in an unlucky moment he thought fit to run away. This escapade proved more rash than the other, for the non-commissioned officer in charge of the picket fired upon the unlucky fugitive, and brought him to the ground at the first shot, the poor student dying of his wound during the night. The sergeant was acting within the strict limits of his duty in firing, but probably the reflection that he put an end to a young man's life by his needless barbarity would be a more lasting punishment than a good many days of imprisonment.

A still more dramatic incident of a similar kind happened at the beginning of this century in the streets of London. A gentleman of high position passing along a much frequented thoroughfare, either was, or supposed himself to be, obstructed and insulted by a young private soldier standing on guard outside one of the public offices. He assaulted the latter, knocked him down, and walked away. The soldier, however, taunted by the laughter of the crowd, reflected for a moment, and then, running after his assailant, thrust him through and through from behind with his fixed bayonet. The gentleman died, and the soldier was brought up on a charge of murder. But the man was acquitted, upon the principle—which is in theory essentially a good one—that it is legitimate for a sentry on duty to repel any hostile attack by the free use of the best weapon in his hands.

Some of our sentries who have suffered from sunstroke in India have occasionally gone suddenly mad, and run amuck amongst their comrades. It is not so long since a soldier on duty fired at some unlucky citizens who were passing the barrack railings. He had suddenly become insane.

When our auxiliary forces are undergoing their annual training, some curious and ludicrous blunders and failings are occasionally brought to light during sentry-go in camp and barracks.

As a contrast to the trustworthy genius of sentinels we can recall some specimens of the very opposite. For example, an American soldier, during the siege of Quebec, being posted as sentinel in a place of some danger, requested his officer to change his situation. Being asked the reason, he replied, "I do not know how it is, but I do not feel myself bold enough to stay there!"

To take another case in point. One night the Emperor Joseph II. of Germany visited his guards to test their fidelity. He found them to all appearance asleep. He placed under the arm of each a purse containing 100 pieces of gold. One soldier, who feigned to be asleep, took possession of all the other purses before his companions awoke, and on the affair being inquired into next day, the Emperor, seeing that this ingenious soldier was the only one on his duty, permitted him alone to enjoy the reward for being the only one awake and able to relate the whole circumstance.

It is a fact, we believe, that a London sentry, accused of being asleep at his post, was saved from punishment by insisting that he had heard the Westminster clock strike

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thirteen for twelve on that particular occasion. On further inquiry, this was actually found to have been the case, owing to something having gone wrong with the clock-works.

A gentleman of Savoy, who had fallen in love with a Countess of Dresden, was prevented from seeing her by certain sentinels, whose walk was in front of her window. His valet, in disguise, visited the sentries at night, stood them a liberal allowance of brandy, and leading them some little distance away offered each of the Grenadiers a louis d'or if they would assist him to dig up with their bayonets a certain stone in the pavement, which he pretended he wanted for a chemical experiment. They took him for a fool, accepted his money, and his *ruse* quite succeeded, for in the meantime the lovers had met in safety.

In the next instance it appears to be the sentries who were at least suspected of being the cheaters. A black cook called Sambo, employed on one of Her Majesty's ships during the mobilization of 1888, had occasionally lost little joints and snacks from the ward-room galley table. Once he lost a loin of mutton which was for the ward-room officers' dinner. There being nothing else procurable, he was obliged to report the loss to the commander. The commander said he would have more sentries placed on the galley. Sambo replied : "No, sar ; more sentries, lose more mutton, sar." "What ! " replied the commander, "you mean to say that the sentries took the mutton ? " "No, " replied Sambo, cautiously, "me no say dat, sar ; but me no want any more sentries at the galley."

Superstition has been answerable for many shortcomings on the part of Tommy Atkins when on duty. A sentry's nerves may be sorely tried when he has to mount guard on some lonely spot which has the reputation of being haunted. In some desolate quarters in Ireland a certain sentry-box was in great disrepute with the troopers stationed there, because a lancer had hanged himself therein and many were the frights experienced by unwilling sentries in consequence, from sights and sounds easily explainable by natural causes. Once, in India, a succession of sentries were for some time almost scared to death through the regular appearance at midnight of a man's ghost, all in white, which would stalk past a sentry-box in one corner of the barrack square. When at last several officers set a watch, and pounced on the apparition, it turned out to be the colonel himself, who had become addicted to somnambulism, and took these queer night parades in his shirt.

To turn to the more whimsical things in connection with our subject, it is a fact that just as the Capitoline geese woke the drowsy guards in Rome and saved the citadel, so did a goose once save the life of an English sentry in Canada. He had retired to his box unsuspicious of danger when an Indian stealthily approached with upraised knife, and would undoubtedly have slain the soldier had not the bird in question run with flapping wings right between the sentry's feet, and roused him up just in time to avert his fate by shooting the warrior. The soldier's feathered ally at once became the pet of the regiment.

An inquiry into the reason for posting a sentry in a garden plot in the grounds of a Russian palace led to the discovery that one had been formerly ordered to that particular spot by request of some princess, who wished a favourite flower of hers to be protected from injury.—*Tit Bits.*

A Curious Prophecy Fulfilled.

FOR many years previous to the Mutiny there existed amongst the Sikhs and Jats of the Punjab a curious prophecy to the effect that in conjunction with the "topi wallahs" (hat wearers), who should come from over the sea, they would lay the head of the sovereign of Delhi on the very same spot that 180 years before the head of their Guru or spiritual chief had been exposed by the order of the Emperor Aurungzebe. Their belief in this prophecy greatly influenced the Sikhs in the part they took in the outbreak of 1857-58, and curiously enough the prophecy was fulfilled.

HIS NUMBER.—When the regiment lay in Sialkote (1863 and 1864) there was a man in No. 2 Company, Captain Hyslop's, named Willie Smith, whose regimental number was 222. The men nicknamed him Twoty-Twoty." Willie had got quite accustomed to this, and one day on parade the Captain having apparently forgotten Smith's number asked him for it: Smith answered in his peculiarly shrill voice, "Twoty-twoty, sir."

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Temperance Notes.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

THE last regular session of the "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge before head-quarters left for the hills was held in the Lodge room on the evening of Wednesday, 8th ultimo, the chief item being:—"Invite Sister Temperance Organisations." These were represented by members of "Perseverance and Hope" Lodge, Lahore, "Concord" Lodge, Royal Artillery, Mian Mir, "Excelsior" Tent of the Independent Order of Rechabites, together with the A. T. A. and League of the Cross, who were all more or less in force. The usual Lodge business having been concluded a first class tea was served in the verandahs, after which the doors were opened and a musical programme interspersed with speeches was gone through. Bro. Bliss, "Perseverance and Hope" Lodge, read a most able paper contributed by Bro. Tydeman of the same Lodge on the "Benefits of Co-operation in Temperance," for which he was awarded a most deserved vote of thanks and the meeting terminated about midnight.

—:o:—

Musketry Results for the year 1894-95.

	Classification. M.	1.	2.	3.	4.	Figure of Merit.
"A" Company ...	19	58	54		2	133·32 / 64·34
"B" " ...	15	24	65		26	107·92 / 49·04
"C" " ...	12	50	56		6	126·99 / 53·71
"D" " ...	4	30	77		20	113·97 / 51·44
"E" " ...	9	37	57		9	123·97 / 56·91
"F" " ...	6	27	65		10	115·74 / 49·50
"G" " ...	13	43	56		7	126·47 / 53·30
"H" " ...	11	45	59		6	124·52 / 60·59

Total for Battalion—

Marksmen	79
First Class Shots	314
Second " "	489
Third " "	86
Total exercised ...	968

Battalion figure of merit—
Individual, 121·47; Field Practices, 54·91.

A Grim Practical Joke.

THE celebrated Hodson of Hodson's Horse related the following incident, which was enacted during the fighting outside Delhi on the 23rd June 1857, the centenary of Plassey:—"Whilst the rebels were being gradually driven out of the Subsi Mundi suburb, a Purbeah, thinking all was over, put his head out of the window of one of the houses, in the shade of which a few Europeans and Gurkhas were resting. Quick as thought a Gurkha sprang up, seized the rebel by his hair, and, with one sweep of his *kukri*, took off his head."

—:o:—

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions from the following:—

For one year—

Band Sergeant Peggie.
Lance-Corporal Harvey.
" " R. Crichton.
Private Newall ... (3 subscriptions).
" Duffin ... (2 ").
" Watson.
" W. Johnstone.
Pipe-Major Ferguson (6 ").

For six months—

Private A. Munn ... (2 ").

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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following:—

"The Soldier."
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The 2nd Suffolk Gazette" (12th Suffolk Regiment).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.)
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regt.)
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"The 79th News" (79th Cameron Highlanders).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The Globe and Laurel" (Royal Marines).
"Army Service Corps Journal."
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Man of the World."
"John O'Groat Journal."
"The Seventh Regiment Gazette" (7th N. Y. N. G.)

COMPANY AGENTS.

"A" Company—Lance-Corporal Duncan.
"C" " " " Stewart.
"D" " " " Rankin.
"E" " " " Pendergast.
"F" " " " Brodie.
"G" " Private Buckland.
"H" " Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Private Gadd.
Dalhousie Depôt—Lance-Corporals Forbes and Little.

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The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line*—

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Officers and others not connected with the Regiment. } Rs. 3 per annum.

NOTA BENE.

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contribution should be written clearly, in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money-orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

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OF THE

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Half "	11	9	8	6
Quarter "	7	6	5	4
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The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 7.—Vol. II. DALHOUSIE,—JULY 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

IT is always a pleasure to hear of our veterans, especially of those who formed part of that heroic band which has immortalised our name; and, through the courtesy of one of the staff of our esteemed contemporary *The Tiger and Sphinx*, we have in the person of Mr. John Mackay found one who is yet hale and hearty, in spite of his years and the many hardships he has endured, and one who looks back with pleasure and pride on the twenty-one years of his soldiering in the Ninety-third Highlanders.

We quote part of our correspondent's letter. He says:—

While over in Edinboro' I fell across an old Ninety-third veteran. He enlisted in 1844, served through the Crimean War and Indian Mutiny, and was pensioned off in 1865 after serving the full twenty-one years. He is now eighty years of age, and has apparently been a fine specimen of a man and a worthy representative of the Ninety-third, as, despite his years and the hardships he must have been through, he carries himself with a fine spirit yet. When he heard I was from India, the first enquiry he made was about his old corps, and many a good story he told me about the "brave old days." He was present with the Ninety-third in every engagement both in the Crimean War and Indian Mutiny, holds medals for all and knows Mr. Forbes Mitchell of Calcutta well. I am not sure, but I think he said that it was No. 2 company he was in. He is employed at present as city guide on Calton Hill.

This opportunity is taken to thank our correspondent for the valuable information he has sent, and should another opportunity occur we hope he will not forget us, whilst we hope Mr. John Mackay may long be spared to point out the beauties of "Modern Athens" to the many wondering strangers and tourists who visit the Calton Hill.

* * * * * *

The great event of the year at Dalhousie—the *Kajiar* week—is over, and everything has returned to its normal condition.

* * * * * *

From the *People's Journal* of 6th April the following is taken, and we beg to add our

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sympathy to that already received by the bereaved widow and family :—

Mr. Charles Duncan, the painstaking, obliging, and respected janitor of Aberdeen Grammar School, died on Wednesday after a long and severe illness. Mr. Duncan joined the Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders in February 1856, and proceeded with that corps to India in 1857, and took part in the suppression of the Indian Mutiny, including the relief and capture of Lucknow, for which he received the medal and two clasps. He subsequently served with the Ninety-third Highlanders in various parts of India, and on the return of the regiment to Scotland was for some time stationed at Stirling, and then at Edinburgh ; but on the adoption of the territorial system, in 1873, he was sent to Aberdeen while holding the rank of sergeant, and performed the duties of provost-sergeant at the barracks here for about 3½ years. He was then appointed canteen steward, which post he filled until discharged to pension in 1877. He then entered the service of Messrs. Lumsden and Gibson, but on a vacancy occurring in the janitorship of the Grammar School. he received the appointment. He was deservedly respected in the army and by all with whom he came in contact at the Grammar School. Mr. Duncan is survived by a widow and seven children, for whom much sympathy is felt in their bereavement. Deceased was in possession of the medal for long service and good conduct.

* * * * * *

The "shifts" are out. Expressions of surprise were general when it was known early in the month that our next station was to be Peshawar. It was almost an accepted fact that Sialkot or, perhaps, Rawalpindi would be our destination after leaving Mian Mir; but however much either of these stations may have been preferred, it is certainly to be taken as a high compliment, both on the efficiency of the battalion in general and the comparative good health, that we have been selected to garrison the most important cantonment on the north-west frontier of this great Indian Empire.

* * * * * *

It will not be the Ninety-third's first appearance at Peshawar, as in November 1861 the regiment moved there from Rawalpindi, remaining until January 1863, when it marched to Sialkot. The regiment's stay there is chiefly remembered by the outbreak of cholera, which occurred during the latter part of the hot weather of 1862, and which resulted in the death of four officers,—Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald, Major Middleton, Ensign Drysdale and Dr. Hope,—sixty men, thirteen women, and twelve children—in all eighty-nine deaths in the short space of four months.

* * * * * *

Major Alexander Wilson, who left us two years ago to join the first battalion on promotion, has been appointed Commandant of the Forces of Western Australia. All who knew Major Wilson will, we are sure, congratulate him on his deserved good luck.

* * * * * *

"H" Company—or at least part of them—have concluded their musketry course, having been the first company of the left-half battalion to try the Dalhousie ranges. They have certainly made an excellent start, and if the average can only be kept up, the figure of merit of the battalion this year should be a very good one. "H" Company's average is 138·68 for individual practices. Unfortunately only forty-nine have been exercised, and so the larger half of the company will become casuals.

* * * * * *

From Battalion Orders:—"The Commanding Officer has much pleasure in announcing that the Commander-in-Chief is very well satisfied with the report on the annual inspection of the battalion held at Mian Mir on the 22nd January 1895."

* * * * * *

This letter sufficiently explains itself :—

56, Bidston Road, Oxton, Birkenhead :
24th May 1895.

Dear Colonel Fetherstonhaugh,

I desire on my own behalf, and also on that of my wife and family, to tender to you and your brother officers our warm gratitude for the beautiful tablet which has just been erected by you in our parish Church of St. Saviour's to the memory of my dear son. The feeling is shared by a large circle of our friends who had known the boy all his life, and by the Chancellor of the Diocese, and the Vicar and Wardens, who justly appreciate the memorial as "a true ornament to the Church."

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A special service was held there yesterday evening, being Ascension Day, for the dedication of a peal of bells which have been presented by a member of the congregation; and the Bishop of Chester referred in his sermon to this memorial in terms which, I know, found a warm echo in the hearts of a large number of the congregation who crowded the Church.

The large Union Jack which covered our poor boy's coffin is to-day floating high above the music of the bells over the memorial brass which bears his name. How little he or any of us on last Queen's Birthday thought that such an event was even remotely possible. Yet mingled with our grief to-day is the warm feeling of true and kindly sympathy to which you, his friends and comrades, have thus given expression in a form which we must always regard as in the highest degree acceptable and valuable. I enclose a short account of the service taken from the Liverpool papers of this morning; and Hardman and Company tell me they will be sending out some photographs of the brass by nex week's mail, but these can give a very imperfect idea of the beauty of the work itself, as it owns a great deal to the colouring.

Believe me, with best wishes for the continued welfare of the splendid regiment under your command, and with our united regards to the officers, and our warm thanks to one and all,

Yours always faithfully,
L. R. STEVENSON.

* * * * * *

Lance-Corporal McLachlan, "C" Company, has been granted a certificate from the School of Signalling, Kasauli, qualifying him to act as Assistant Instructor.

* * * * * *

Captain K. B. Cameron, who has returned from transport duty with the Chitral Relief Force, owing to a severe attack of sunstroke, is away to Kashmir for four months, on the recommendation of a Medical Board.

* * * * * *

Second-Lieutenant A. H. McLean has also been granted leave of absence until the middle of October.

* * * * * *

Several changes are to take place in the depôt this year, and it is proposed to put a large part of it under canvas, the bungalows being reserved for really delicate men and as institutes for the detachments at Mankote and Ticca. If this change takes place most of the troops from Mankote hill will have to change their camp and pitch it at the depôt.

* * * * * *

Our signallers with the moveable column, although denied the pleasure of participating in the glories of the relief of Chitral, have been distinguishing themselves in athletics. At some garrison sports held lately at Kalabagh, in the Hazara District, where they are in summer quarters, Private Johnson, "C" Company, won the quarter mile by a good ten or twelve yards, whilst Privates Hamilton, "E" Company, and Dunmore, "A" Company, were second and fourth. In the three-legged race, also, Johnson and Hamilton should have won, but they came to grief at the tape and had to be contented with second place. Our correspondent, to whom we owe the above news, also informs us that a shooting match with the Mountain Battery to which they are attached is on the *tapis*, in which our men will have to use the carbine. There are several capital shots among the signallers, and it is to be hoped that they will give a good account of themselves.

I dreamt I dwelt in marble halls
But awoke inside of a tent
Where the rain came through the broken walls
And streamed, from the roof, through a rent.

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The Kajiar Week.

—o—

KAJIAR week was later than usual this year, and the weather was not so good as last year, but this was hardly to be wondered at considering the time of year. Indeed, we may think ourselves lucky it was not worse. We had only one really heavy shower on the morning of the last day, and there was always quite as much dust as the riders wanted on the far side of the course.

A good many people went out on the afternoon of the 5th June, but the following day was the proper day of assembly, and nearly everybody who came for the week was in by dinner time on the 6th, after which lotteries were held on the first day's races. There was a good attendance, but the bidding was not very brisk and no lotteries were held before the second day's races.

The morning of the 7th was dull and threatening, but the mist lifted just before the first race and the sun shone brilliantly. Sergeant Weller had charge of the totalizator, round which there was always a crowd, principally of natives, many of whom tried an occasional flutter. The best price obtained was in *Mart's* race, when the totalizator paid Rs. 37 for a Rs. 2 ticket, but generally prices were very low. There was a rumour of a bookmaker being expected, but he did not turn up. The Raja of Chamba was present and won two races.

A large party dined at the officers' mess at night, about forty sitting down to dinner, during which the band of the Border Regiment and our pipers played. Immediately after dinner a large bonfire was lighted, and then began, what His Highness the Raja afterwards described, as a "sing shout," which lasted till long after midnight.

On Saturday, the 8th, the principal event of the day was a cricket match between Kajiar and Chamba, but this rather fell through as the Chamba team only mustered four players, and consequently seven more had to be collected to play for the Raja. Kajiar won, scoring 144 to Chamba's 78. For Kajiar Mr. Broadhurst, 4th Gurkhas, made the top score, 68.

In the evening a party of ladies and gentlemen, including the Colonel and Mr. Graham of ours, practised the Lancers mounted, but the ponies being untrained, and some of the riders not being quite sure of the figures, it was not altogether a success. During the day Mr. Moulton-Barret wounded a black bear, which he followed up for some distance, but lost among some big rocks. It was found dead two days later near the place where he first saw it, and turned out to be an old female with rather a poor coat.

After dinner there was dancing on the race course in front of the officers' mess tent by the light of a bonfire.

Sunday, the 9th, was a quiet day. The afternoon was devoted to picnics, a large party going about four miles down the road to Chamba to a point where an excellent view of the town of Chamba can be obtained.

On Monday morning, the 10th, everybody was up early practising tent-pegging, tilting at the ring, &c., for the gymkhana the next day, and after breakfast the more energetic people played rounders and badminton.

For the first race, the "Terah Handicap," there were seven starters, including two ponies of the Raja's. Mr. Onslow's *Brisk*, formerly the property of Captain Mackenzie, won easily; Mr. Graham's *Mart* being third. The second race was a two furlong "Polo Scurry," in which Mr. Hyslop's *Waziri* was only just beaten by Mr. Bruce's *Tibbie* after a most exciting finish. The race for warrant and non-commissioned officers' ponies was next on the card, and five ponies started, only three completing the course, as two ran out, coming into the straight. Sergeant Murray's *Old Boots* won easily. Pipe-Major Ferguson's *Rothesay* being second. The "Ladies' Nomination Race" was the next event, and produced seven starters. Captain Slee, R. A., on *Cassidy*, nominated by Mrs. Moody, won. Mr. Graham, nominated by Miss Shute, being second.

The "Consolation Race" concluded the programme. Five ponies started. Captain Slee's *Ida* won, Mr. McCandlish's *Urchin* being second and Mr. Hyslop's *Waziri* third.

In the evening Colonel Hutchinson, Commissioner of the Division, had a dinner party and a bonfire concert in his camp.

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The Chamba band of pipers played excellently, and the big drummer was a marvel to behold.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 11th, a *pagal* gymkhana was arranged with eleven events on the card, two being races for prizes presented by Her Highness the Rani of Chamba, who was in the Raja's bungalow close to the course, but unable, for caste reasons to be present. One of these races, the "City and Suburban," one mile, was the first event, and was won easily by Mr. Onslow's *Brisk*. Mr. Graham's *Mart* being second.

The "Affinity Stakes" followed, the lady having to take three rings while the gentleman took a peg. This was eventually won by Miss Inglis and Mr. Meyer, R.E. After this a race for baggage animals, as the lady visitors' *jampanies* were called. Twenty-one teams entered and the race had to be run in heats, which were rather amusing, as there were several collisions and numerous falls, but no damage done: a scratch team entered as "Tomboy" won. The fourth event was a "Wand Race." Ladies to ride on alternate sides of seven flags placed in line, and back again. Miss Shute was the only lady who did not touch a flag and won.

The "Grand National Steeple Chase" for prizes presented by the Rani came next. Four started. Mr. McCandlish's *Safed*, ridden by Mr. Grove, won easily. A 220 yards race for soldiers for prizes given by the General followed. This was won by Private French, Devonshire Regiment, Private Dadson second, and Private Mills, both of the Border's, third. Seventh event, "Lloyd-Lindsay Competition." A lady and gentleman to ride over a hurdle to an earthenware chatty, which the lady had to break with a stone from a distance of 5 yards. The first pair to start were the winners, the lady succeeding in breaking the chatty at the first shot, no other lady managing to do so under about twenty attempts. After this there was tent-pegging, a ball and basket race for ladies and an evening tie race, in which each gentleman had to ride about 150 yards, dismount and pick up an envelope with his name on it and carry it back to a lady, who took an evening tie out of the envelope and tied it round the gentleman's neck. The gentleman then rode back to the winning post. There was no prize for tying the best bow, and some of them were very curious. The last event was a Soldiers' race on hired tats, in which most of the starters ran out of the course.

In the evening the Raja entertained every one in camp at dinner in his large tent lent by him to the officers' mess for the week. All day long the Chamba Commander-in-Chief had been busy decorating the tent with ropes of flowers, which were brought in from Chamba in cooly loads, together with a large supply of fruit of different kinds, and when lit up at night the place looked very pretty. About sixty people sat down to dinner, during which the Raja's band and pipers and the band of the Border Regiment played. One dish, a sort of *pillao*, prepared by the Raja's own cook, was served and proved most excellent though rather too sweet for Western ideas. The Raja himself was unable to be present at dinner, but came in immediately after and proposed "The Queen." Colonel Hutchinson in a short speech proposed the health of the Raja and thanked him for his hospitality. The toast was drunk with Highland honours, and His Highness replied. An adjournment was then made outside, and dancing was kept up for some time in front of the usual bonfire, which on this occasion had been built much higher than usual and decorated with a red flag at the top.

On Wednesday, the 12th, a good many people returned to Dalhousie, and in the early part of the afternoon we had to keep to our tents as it rained heavily, wetting the ground to such an extent that the jumping competition advertised for the afternoon had to be given up. It cleared sufficiently, however, for the Horse and Dog Show to be held. Mr. McCandlish got first prize for country breds with *Urchin*, and Mr. Graham third prize for Arabs with *Mart*. Mrs. Moulton-Barrett obtaining first prize for ladies' hacks with *Gold Flake*.

Mr. Moulton-Barrett got first prize for terriers with *Rough*, Mr. Sutherland second prize for sporting dogs with *Gyp*, and Corporal Wright second prize for soldiers' dogs with *Minnie*.

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After dinner there was the usual dance in front of the bonfire, after which we joined hands and all sang "Auld Lang Syne"; and so ended the Kajiar week of 1895.

RACING RESULTS.

1ST DAY.

2ND RACE.—Resident's Plate. Value, Rs. 40. For maiden Arabs and C-Bs 14 hands and under, the property of *bonâfide* residents of Dalhousie and Officers on duty in Dalhousie. Distance, 5 furlongs.

Mr. Graham's (93rd) *Mart*, Mr. Grove 1
Captain Slee's *Ida*, Native 2

Also ran—*Lassie*, *Little Duchess*, *Kitty* and *Maid of Multan*.

3RD RACE.—Baben Chase. Value, Rs. 40. For all ponies. Distance, about 1½ miles.

Mr. McCandlish's (93rd) *Safed*, Mr. Grove 1
Captain Urmston's (93rd) *Strawberry*, Mr. Bruce 2

Also ran—*Jock*, *Claye* and *Grummel*.

Jock bolted at the start and ran out; *Grummel* held the running for about ½ mile from home, when *Safed* took the lead and won easily.

4TH RACE.—C-B Stakes. Value, Rs. 40. For maiden C-B ponies. Distance, 3 furlongs.

H. H. the Raja of Chamba's *Luna*, Mr. Harrison 1
Mr. McCandlish's (93rd) *Urchin*, Mr. Bruce 2
Mr. Hyslop's (93rd) *Waziri*, Mr. Grove 3

Also ran—*Lawrie*, *Flake*, *Money* and *Blaze*.

To a bad start, the favourite got off badly, but won easily.

5TH RACE.—Polo Scurry. Value, Rs. 40. For *bonâ fide* polo ponies, catch weights over 11 stone. Distance, about 2 furlongs. Two heats without dismounting.

Captain Slee's *Witch*, Mr. Bruce 1
Mr. Onslow's *Britka*, Mr. Wolseley 2

Also ran—*Tibbi*, *Mite* and *Tigress*.

Tigress kept the start waiting several minutes, and finally refused to start. *Tibbi* fell a furlong from home, but the rider escaped with a shaking. *Witch* won easily.

2ND DAY.

1ST RACE.—The Terah Handicap. Distance, 1 mile.

Mr. Onslow's *Brisk*, Mr. Bruce 1
Captain Slee's *Ida*, Mr. Gorie 2

Also ran—*Mart*, *Lawrie*, *Luna*, *Multum-in-Parvo* and *Manilla*.

A well handicapped race, *Luna* was scratch; *Brisk*, who only had 50 yards start, soon came to the front and won easily.

2ND RACE.—Polo Scurry. Distance, 2 furlongs.

Mr. Bruce's *Tibbie*, Mr. Gorie 1
Mr. Hyslop's (93rd) *Waziri*, Captain Gooch 2

Also ran—*Mite*, *Pearl*, *Gray* and *Beauty*.

To a good start *Tibbie* and *Waziri* had an exciting up the straight, the former winning cleverly.

3RD RACE.—Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers' Race. Distance, ½ mile.

Sergeant Murray's (93rd) *Old Boots*, Private Thompson ... 1
Pipe-Major Ferguson's (93rd) *Rothesay*, Sergeant Blacklock 2

Five started, but *Old Boots* was too good for any of the others, and two ponies ran out coming in the straight.

4TH RACE.—Ladies' Nomination Race. Distance, R. C.

Mrs. Moody nominates Captain Slee 1
Miss Shute " Mr. Graham 2
Mrs. Englis " Mr. Smith 3

Several ladies nominated for this race, which was an exciting one, Captain Slee easily winning.

5TH RACE.—Consolation Stakes. Distance, about 3 furlongs.

Captain Slee's *Ida*, Captain Smith 1
Mr. McCandlish's (93rd) *Urchin*, Mr. Bruce 2
Mr. Hyslop's *Waziri*, Owner 3

Also ran—*Captain Gooch* and *Gold Flake*.

There was great betting on this race, which was a very good one, and finished a excellent day well.

What the Parrot is saying.

(*N.B.*—The parrot is at Mian Mir this year for the benefit of its health).

—o—

As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.

That it'll be all right in Peshawar.

That it'll be within sight of the hills.

That the bunks have been allotted.

That its number is B4½½.

That "A" Company thought they had lost the "Shield."

That there is still another latest.

That it wants to know the corporal for the range.

That it's been hearing all about Chitral.

That it was good business for the tum-tum wallahs on the 1st.

That many strange faces may be seen at guard mounting parade on Sundays.

That the rains have commenced.

That the weather has cooled considerably.

That its health is still good.

What its Dalhousie cousin says:—

That a certain corporal was temporarily promoted to a most exalted position.

That it believes the increase of rank cost him several quires of foolscap.

That *Kajiar* was not up to last year's form.

That it was spoiled by rain.

That the regiment was pretty well represented.

That it also secured a few races.

That the juniors were "all there."

That the non-commissioned officers' race was a good one.

That *Tubby* was unfortunately only third.

That had owners been "up" it might have been different.

That a walk to Chamba is an excellent appetiser.

That an "H" Company's bed tickets must be of an extraordinary size.

That it heard of an E. P. tent being placed in one.

That it would like to know how it was done.

That the "Adjutant's garden parties" are well attended.

That a certain sportsman shot at a 'possum and killed a leopard.'

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A Plain Tale from the Hills.

—o—

THERE'S a dreary little station on the Himalaya's crest,
Towering over all its neighbours like a mountain eagle's nest;
And the traveller journeying near it starts to find in some lone nook
A single stalwart British soldier poring o'er a little book.

On he travels, nothing heeding; but another meets his gaze,
And within the dark pine forest, he is stricken with amaze.
For he sees another warrior, shouting in stentorian tones,
Frantic'ly gesticulating, while at intervals he groans.

Timidly the traveller listens, words of wonder meet his ear;
"Barrel-casing, gib and lockspring, fixing pin, and bent and sear."
Then he asks, in trembling accents, "Warrior, what is't you say?
"Are you conjuring up Mahatmas from the snow peaks far away?"

Then the warrior turns and scans him with a dim lack lustre eye,
And he murmurs something strongish, asks him, "Can you not pass by?
"Why have you come here to question, I've had enough of that of late;
"Traveller, pass, stay not to wonder, ask me not of my sad fate."

"I am working back the Maxim, fearful thing of wondrous power.
"You come here to interrupt me. Are you going to stay an hour?
"To-morrow I have got to pass it; of it I know naught at all."
Then again renews his babble of "fusee spring and crank and pawl."

"No, you cannot so dismiss me, I will know your secret dread.
"Why are you so pale and haggard? What's this mystic book of red?"
Then the warrior turns in anger, "This is Changla Gali, fool!
"And the wretch you see before you is a student at the school."

"I am here to get my parchment; pull it, though, I never can.
"Why was such a fearful torture ere devised to pain poor man?
"With the first gray dawn of morning I am out upon the square,"
"Poking up, and then to breakfast, fed upon the soldiers' fare."

"After breakfast to the Maxim wend my way with aching head,"
"Battle with the mechanism till I wish that I were dead.
"Then the antiquated Weldon I must squint through with one eye,
"Take the range of lofty places none can reach save those which fly."

"Then comes dinner, and just after, out again upon parade,
"Till the firing exercises ne'er will from my memory fade.
"And my wretched brain, bewildered, shows me everywhere I look
"One distorted, frightful image of the hated old red book."

"And for two months I must stick it." Then again he turns his back,
Wrestles, struggles with the Maxim, like a damned soul on the rack.
And the traveller, sadly musing, shakes his restless charger's rein,
Vowing from his soul he'll never come by Changla e'er again.

R. M.

—:o:—

Held on like a Bull-dog.

—o—

"THE following desperate struggle took place in one of the small rooms within the Secunderbagh," says Dr. Munro:—"A party of our men forced open the door of a room from which the enemy were firing from loop-holes in the wall. Having effected an entrance, our nine men found themselves confronted by a score of sepoys, some armed with muskets, and others with shield and tulwar. A hand-to-hand fight resulted, as there was no means of escape for the enemy: our men using the bayonet only, for their rifles were not loaded and they had no time to load. One of the nine (Francis Clarke) found himself engaged with a '*big, powerful*, black-whiskered fellow,' who cut savagely at him, while he warded off the cuts with his rifle, watching for an opportunity to use his bayonet. At last he made his thrust, but the point slipping off the edge of the shield passed between the arm and body of his antagonist, who immediately closed with Clarke, and seizing him round the body threw him on the ground, falling with and heavily upon him. Clarke struggled desperately to get uppermost, but being young and slight was unable to do so. Feeling that his strength was failing, he seized the giant by the throat with his teeth and 'held on like a bull-dog,' while with his left hand he held the right wrist of his enemy as in a vice, until one of the other men (John Leslie) came to his assistance and drove his bayonet through the sepoy. Of the nine men of the 93rd engaged in this struggle four were killed and four were wounded, Clarke being the only one who escaped unhurt. All the sepoys, twenty in number, were killed."

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Where Scottish Recruits go to.

—o—

COMMENT is often made as to the dearth of Scottish recruits, and Scots get the credit of being "too canny to 'list" and share the hardships of a soldier's life. We think, however, that this is not the case, and Scotsmen, even with their superior weight of brain, are just, if not more, patriotic and indifferent to hardship as any Southron. It is certainly true that the land of the mountain and flood is not particularly prolific as a recruiting ground for the British army, but then Scotland's small population must be taken into consideration and compared with the large number of regiments she has to keep up before her warlike spirit is condemned.

If, however, we turn from the army to our first line of defence—the navy—quite a different tale is told, and so it will be seen that where glory is to be at any moment won and hardships always endured, there Scotchmen are to the fore.

The navy and marines can always get recruits from the north, and from the *Globe and Laurel*, the journal of the Royal Marines, we get the interesting information, supplied by statistics, that during the year 1894 no less than 1,119 of the 3,309 recruits raised for the marine forces were Scotch, or over 33 per cent. Of these, 313, or 26 per cent., went to the marines; 206, or 20 per cent., were boys; whilst 600, or 58 per cent. went to the engine-room or stoke-hole of our large ironclads.

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The late Major-General Gordon.

—o—

THE *Times*, mentioning the death of this distinguished officer of our's, says:—Major-General Charles Henry Gordon, C.B., of The Warren, Ascot, belonged to the old family of the Gordons of Braid and Cluny. He was born in 1816, was educated at Harrow, and entered the 93rd Highlanders in November 1835, and served with them in the Eastern Campaign of 1854 up to July 1855, including the battles of the Alma, where he obtained his majority, and Balaclava, the expedition to the Sea of Azof, the capture of Kertch and Yenikali, and the seige of Sebastopol (mentioned in despatches, medal with three clasps, brevet of lieutenant-colonel, 5th class of the Medjidie and Turkish medal). In 1857 and 1858 he was with Sir Colin Campbell in India, being present at the Relief of Lucknow, the action at Cawnpore, and the final capture of Lucknow. He commanded the 53rd Shropshire Light Infantry at the Relief of Lucknow from the 13th to 24th of November, for which he was made a C. B. He commanded the left wing of the 93rd Highlanders at the storming of the Begum's Palace, and was specially mentioned in despatches as commanding a part of the 93rd, dislodging the enemy from their last position in Lucknow (medal with two clasps) Major-General Gordon commanded the Highland Depôt Battalion at Aberdeen until he retired on full pay. He was awarded a pension for distinguished service. He married Georgina, eldest daughter of the late Sir Edmund Knowles Lacon, of Ormesby House, Norfolk.

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Barrack Damages.

—o—

BEFORE the demolition, ten years ago, of a huge barrack in the south of England, a cracked pane of glass could be perceived above the door of the orderly-room.

As far back as the year 1816 this fracture was occasioned by a missile indiscreetly thrown in the course of the rough and tumble merry making that took place on the return of the head-quarters of the regiment, then quartered therein, from the occupation of Paris, subsequently to the victory of Waterloo. A day or two later the lynx eye of the quartermaster perceived the crack, of which he made a careful note. At the ensuing inspection the pane was entered as "barrack damages," and the regiment charged for the expense of putting in a new one. Nothing of the kind, however, was done, although the pane was noted in every monthly inspection for many years, and the various regiments which lay in the barracks debited for the cost of having it replaced.

In 1855, when a great outcry was raised in the country in consequence of the lamentable bungling of the Commissariat Authorities in connection with the Crimean War, and the Army Red Tape Department was temporarily roused out of its chronic inertia, and actually perceived the expediency of doing something pursuant to imperative orders, a real live glazier made his appearance at the orderly-room, armed with a square of glass and a lump of putty.

"What are you going to do?" asked the Colonel, who was writing in his apartment. "Stick in that there pane, Sir." "I am busy just now; come back two hour later."

The workman didn't, but his time, putty, &c., were duly charged to the regiment, and the pane, as before, was once a month entered as barrack damages right down to 1876. That year a military board judged the barracks to be dilapidated and inconvenient.

The building was accordingly pulled down, and the fragments of the very-much-charged-for pane of glass were probably carted away in the *débris*.

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A Touching Appeal.

—o—

"THE following touching appeal from a Son of Mars, says the *St. George's Gazette*, "who has attained a good position, and who wishes to find a suitable partner for life, has just been received by the Chaplain of S ——, who says he will be glad to forward the name of any young lady who would like to apply. We give the young aspirant's application *verbatim* in his own words :—

'I am desirous of getting married, and as I am not acquainted with young ladies suitable to my taste, I have thought of applying to some Orphanage where, out of a number of young ladies, I surely ought to find one. I enclose the description of girl, young lady rather, that would be near the mark suited to me, which I trust may be found as near as possible to the same.

'Description of young lady—(1) The daughter of a military man ; (2) a pure European ; (3) age, about twenty to twenty-five years ; (4) height, about 5 feet 6 inches, or thereabouts; (5) features, pleasant; (6) general build of body, strong and big made ; (7) temper, good and submissive ; (8) religion, Protestant, Baptist, or Methodist ; (9) able to converse nicely, or with the ability to pick up the ways if put into the forms; (10) able to write a good English letter, keep bazar accounts, and acquainted with household duties ; punctual in settling bills and not putting off till to-morrow what should be done to-day, or with the ability to practice when shown ; (11) should be patient and not jump to conclusions in deciding household or family matters.'"

The Chaplain's applicant thus modestly describes himself, and, if his description is correct, should make a model husband :—

"My age is thirty. My character good, strictly moral ; very sober, a total abstainer from all alcoholic drinks ; patient, gentle in all my actions and speech ; self-possessing, truthful and religiously inclined." He then goes on to explain where he was born, his ancestry, &c., and then continues :—'I am slightly sun-burnt ; what with outdoor work and previous exposure, it has tinged my appearance ; this, however, is a matter of little consequence. I am an ordinary-built man, standing 5 feet 6½ inches in height, and people do say—I have pleasant features.'"

LONG CREDIT.—Two Highlanders roaming through the south of Mid-Lothiam after the battle of Prestonpans, entered a farm house, where they found no one at home but an old woman. They immediately proceeded to search the house and finding a web of coarse home-spun cloth, made no ado about cutting off as much as they thought would make a coat for each. The woman was exceedingly incensed at their rapacity, and invoked divine vengeance upon their heads. "Ye villians!" she cried, "ye'll ha'e to account for this yet!"

"And when will we pe account for't ?"

"At the last day, ye blackguards!" exclaimed the woman.

"Ta last tay!" replied the Highlanders. "Tat pe goot long credit. We'll e'en pe tak' a waistcoat, too!" at the same time cutting of a few additional yards of the cloth.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENT.

To be Lance-Corporal.—No. 4628, Private G. Ballantyne, "E" Company.

To be Bandsman.—No. 40, 50 Private E. Lillywhite, "F" Company.

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

The following are taken on the paid establishment of their rank :—

No. 4653, Lance-Corporal J. Fearn, "F" Company.

No. 4395, Lance-Corporal A. Hunter, "H" Company.
No. 3967, Lance-Corporal J. Duncan, "A" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following have been granted 2d. per diem :—

"C" Company.

No. 3104, Pte. H. Grosvenor | No. 3093, Pte. H. Wallace.

"D" Company.

No. 3139, Private W. Gordon.

"E" Company.

No. 3138, Lance-Corporal W. Fawcett.

The following have been granted 1d. per diem :—

"C" Company.

No. 4388, Private J. McBride.

"E" Company.

No. 3458, Pte. W. Seabroke. | No. 4533, Pte. W. Scott.
No. 4591, Private T. Duffy.

"F" Company.

No. 4780, Pte. J. Hope. | No. 4697, Pte. J. Thompson.

"G" Company.

No. 4803, Private W. Fenton.

The following have been restored 1d per diem :—

"C" Company.

No. 3856, Pte. P. Crosbie. | No. 1354, Pte. J. Randalls.

EMPLOYMENT.

As Garrison Military Provost.—No. 3454, Private C King, "E" Company, and No. 3183, Private G. Shipman "H" Company.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

	£	s.	d.
"A" Company.			
No. 4303, Lance-Corporal A. Hauser	0	17	0
„ 3042, Private A. Mitchell	0	14	0
„ 3259, Lance-Corporal A. Pannell	0	12	0
„ 2790, Private W. Ronald	0	12	0
„ 2145, „ W. Learmont	0	10	0
„ 3047, „ J. Milne	0	8	0
„ 3037, Corporal G. Arnott	0	6	0
„ 3066, Private T. McDonald	0	6	0
„ 3053, Corporal W. Mathew	0	6	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section.			
No. 413, Color-Sergeant T. Spedding	0	11	4½
Commander of Second Best Section.			
No. 3053, Corporal W. Mathew	0	5	8½

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Right Wing Notes at Mian Mir.

NOTHING of any note has occurred during June to disturb the eqilibrium of the wing, and the health of the men in general has been very good; in fact at the present time there are few men in hospital than there have been at any period since we have been in the station, and there are fortunately no serious cases. On the 1st June "A" Company relieved "C" Company at Lahore Fort, the latter returning to head-quarters. Musketry is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible, but only half companies are struck off at once, the duty being too heavy to allow more than this. Were it not for the prison guard—which, by the way, causes nearly all the sickness—a whole company could be exercised at once. The left half of "D" Company have concluded their course, whilst the right half have also nearly finished, and the average this year is expected to be considerably higher than that of last.

On Wednesday, 5th June, the members of the "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge I. O. G. T. invited their brethren at Fort Lahore to a repast in the A. T. A. room, for which Bro. Wallace was responsible. Bro. Short, C. T., thanked the wing for their hospitality, and hoped that the Good Templars at the fort would have an opportunity of repaying the wing at some future date. In the evening the usual weekly session was held in the Lodge room, when the usual routine of business was discussed. After all official matters had been disposed of a non-musical brother entertained the members—and won a wager at the same time—by accompanying himself on the banjo, much to the amusement of all present, and with many other items a most enjoyable evening was spent.

On the 6th June a distribution of medals took place in the A. T. A. rooms. Corporal Rankin, President of the Association, making the presentation. The following received medal decorations :—

Four-year Bar.—Corporal Miller, "C" Company, and Lance-Corporal Robinson, "D" Company.

Three-year Medal.—Color-Sergeant Swan, Corporal Langdon, and Lance-Corporal McLachlan, "C" Company; Privates Milne, "A" Company; Brand, "B" Company; Anderson, "C" Company; and Gordon and Hooper, "D" Company.

One-year Medal.—Lance-Corporal Williams and Privates Dobson and Thomas, "B" Company; Marklow, "C" Company; and Morton, "E" Company.

Cruikshank Badges.—Privates Fowler, "A" Company; Wallace, "B" Company; Marklow, "C" Company; and Morton, "E" Company.

There is little else of any note to chronicle, except that a Minstrel troupe was rehearsing and should have given a performance, but it is reported that one of those little attacks of *ennui* that amateur dramatic clubs are so liable to has caused an abandonment of the entertainment, only temporally it is hoped, as a little relaxation from the monotony of existence in the shape of a gaff would be most welcome at the present.

The following have been provisionally promoted :—

To be Provisional Corporals.—No. 3346, Lance-Corporal J. Stewart, "C" Company, and No. 3596, Lance-Corporal A. Rankin, "D" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 3104, Private H. Grosvenor, "C" Company.

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Extracts from an Unpublished Blue Book.

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THE OFFICIALS AND THE RATS.

WITHIN a thousand miles of P——was a store in which a large quantity of military clothing was kept pending emergencies, and to keep down the rats there was a cat for which a small subsistence allowance was drawn monthly. Retrenchment, however, was the order of the day, and the officer in charge was directed to indent for "traps, rat, wire, iron, galvanised, mark I" in proportion of one to every 100 suits of clothing. In the next "Changes in War Material" an elaborate picture and description of the above trap appeared, and the cat was declared obsolete and was ordered to be handed over to the Commissariat Department to be sold.

The number of traps according to the above proportion was found to be 19·3, and accordingly 20 traps were demanded. The indent came back with one trap disallowed, but by way of consolation it was stated that "fractions of a trap exceeding 5 would be considered as a whole trap." Thereupon the officer in charge of clothing store pointed out "that the odd 33 suits of clothing would be left at the mercy of the rats," but without avail. The 19 traps duly arrived, and a return, Army Form X1063, was ordered to be submitted monthly.

The return in question was arranged in birdcage form and was a masterpiece of its kind, showing at a glance the amount of clothing in store, the cubic measurement of each room, the number of traps on charge, the number of rats caught each day. The rats were to be further classified as regards colour and size and arranged in parallel columns. Mice were to be entered under the heading "Remarks." The percentage of rats caught to suits of clothing and of rats to traps were to be marginally noted. Mice were to be included in the latter but not in the former.

The officer in charge of the store acknowledged the receipt of the traps and requested instructions as to how they were to be set. The reply came "that the matter had been under consideration and instructions would be shortly published." The first monthly return showed several suits of clothing destroyed by rats. The authorities gave evidence of the energy they have always displayed on an emergency, and a very complete pamphlet was issued within a month.

The second return was like the first, "Were the instructions regarding setting of traps strictly adhered to?" "Yes. The clothing destroyed doubtless was part of that for which traps were disallowed," was the triumphant reply.

Another trap was allowed, but "it was in contemplation to make a corresponding increase to the clothing in store of 67 suits."

Third return showed rats caught "nil" and more clothing destroyed. A mark II trap was introduced which differed from mark I in that the wire was not galvanised and the iron was obtained in Germany. No rats were caught, and the destruction of clothing continued.

"None but men of superior intelligence were to be allowed to touch the traps, and a warrant officer was to be struck off duty and detailed to instruct them, and a return was to be submitted monthly showing the number of men instructed."

The worthy who was selected for this important post elaborated a drill in accordance with the "spirit" of the "instructions," which after various extension motions to develope the trapsetting muscles, commenced with "Take up traps" and ended with "Ease springs."

Badges in gold and in worsted of crossed rats' tails were authorised for men who attained a certain stage of proficiency. Still no rats were caught and the destruction of clothing continued.

The return showing the number of men instructed was to be submitted in duplicate once a week.

No improvement.

The authorities were compelled to admit that the traps had not answered their expectations, and that there appeared to be no fault either in the traps themselves or the setting, and inquired incidentally what bait was used.

The officer in charge of the clothing store pointed out that no allowance was made for bait in the regulations, and that he could not be expected to provide it out of his own pocket.

* * * * * * * *

The rats are still enjoying themselves on the clothing

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Hints to Young Soldiers.

—o—

TWO minutes spent in cleaning your rifle immediately after a wet march or parade is worth two hours' labour later on.

2. An old toothbrush well oiled is just the thing for cleaning all the chinks of the rifle; it costs little, and may save you a "parade again."

3. It is better to be five minutes too soon for duty than be half a minute too late.

4. Speak the truth always. Your non-commissioned officers have been longer in the service than you have, and can scent a fib at 1,000 yards.

5. A pass can nearly always be had for the asking. Why chance your arm at an "Absent," which may deprive you of this privilege for a month or two.

6. When on sentry, if your feet are cold, stand on tiptoe for five minutes.

7. The guard beds are a trifle hard, and the night may be cold, but you will be able to snatch 40 winks during your "4 hours off" by letting your brace out three holes, and imagining that you are falling over a cliff. Try it.

8. Don't borrow. Every man has a kit to himself, and should soldier on it alone.

9. If you smoke and spit, try to do it without spitting for a week, and you will be surprised to find that you can enjoy a pipe without spitting.

10. It is better to command than to be commanded. The lance stripe is for those who are worthy of it, and it is worth having. Have a try.—*St. George's Gazette.*

A YOUTHFUL OFFICER.—Lord Annandale, one of the Scotch Judges, had a son who at the early age of eleven or twelve, rose to the rank of major. One morning his lady mother hearing a noise in the *nursery* rang to know the cause of it, and was informed that it was "only the major greetin' for his porridge."

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Football.

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TICCA SPUR *v*, MANKOTE.

A FAIRLY representative wing team played the Borders from Mankote on the 22nd ultimo, the match resulting in a win for our team by three goals to *nil*. The team was as follows :—

Team.—Privates Murray, "F" (goal); Pendergast, "E," and Dundas, "F," (backs); McDonald, "H," McLaren, "F" and Mathison, "E," (half backs); Crawford, "G," Corporal Watters, "E" and Privates Reid, "G," Denholm, "F," and Walls, "F" (forwards).

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The Temperature.

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THE following is the temperature recorded during the month of June. The first column gives that registered in the verandah at 12 o'clock, whilst the second gives the temperature inside the bungalow at 4 in the afternoon :—

	12 noon.	4 P.M.		12 noon.	4 P.M.
1st ...	103°	100°	16th ...	103°	96°
2nd ...	102°	98°	17th ...	93°	92°
3rd ...	103°	99°	18th ...	102°	96°
4th ...	98°	96°	19th ...	102°	94°
5th ...	98°	98°	20th ...	102°	94°
6th ...	104°	98°	21st ...	104°	96°
7th ...	94°	97°	22nd ...	104°	96°
8th ...	100°	97°	23rd ...	106°	98°
9th ...	104°	99°	24th ...	108°	100°
10th ...	100°	98°	25th ...	94°	93°
11th ...	100°	96°	26th ...	96°	93°
12th ...	100°	94°	27th ...	92°	90°
13th ...	98°	96°	28th ...	96°	90°
14th ...	100°	94°	29th ...	82°	85°
15th ...	98°	94°	30th ...	93°	88°

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Temperance Notes.

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INDEPENDENT ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

A Juvenile Lodge formed.

ON Thursday, the 6th June, Brother Peters, "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge, P. D. D. G. S. J. T. for the district, opened a Juvenile Temple under the title of "Dalhousie Pride." At 4-30 P.M. Brother Peters, assisted by Brothers Sweenie, "Pride of Sutherland," and Hay, Gosden and Warner, opened the Lodge in due form, and several children were taken into the Order. After business was over one of the juveniles recited, and then followed a sumptuous tea, for which Brother Peters was responsible, and which was greatly enjoyed by the youngsters.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES.

—o—

ON the evening of the 26th ultimo a deputation from the "Excelsior" Tent paid a visit to the "Mountain Spring" Lodge I. O. G. T. where they were most heartily received. After business had been disposed of a concert was held, Bros. Mathieson, Simmons, Brasenell and Begent of "Pride of Sutherland" and other brothers singing some capital songs and the evenings enjoyment terminated at 11 P.M. with the National Anthem.

BIRTH.

Hanson.—At Dalhousie, on the 28th June, the wife of No. 3137, Lance-Sergeant Hanson of a daughter, Florence Mary.

DEATHS.

GORDON.—At London, on the 24th May, Major-General Charles Henry Gordon, C. B., of the Warren Ascot, late Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders.

DUNCAN.—At Aberdeen, on the 3rd April, Mr. Charles Duncan, Janitor, Aberdeen Grammar School, late Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders.

MURPHIE.—At Manchester, on the 24th April, Mr. James Murphie, of Moncrieff Terrace, Edinburgh, late Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders.

BAXTER.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 6th June, Private W. Baxter, "D" Company, of heat apoplexy.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

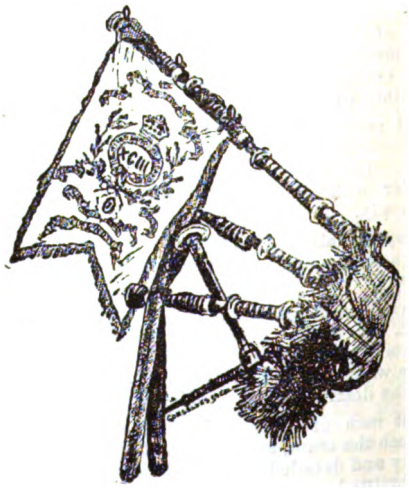
WE beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions from the following :—

For one year—

Sergeant C. Duncan.
Captain Urmston.
Bandmaster Davies (2 subscriptions).
Private J. Wallace.

For six months—

Private G. Russell.



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OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the following:—

"The Soldier."
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The 2nd Suffolk Gazette" (12th Suffolk Regiment).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I.)
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regt.)
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"The 79th News" (79th Cameron Highlanders).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The Globe and Laurel" (Royal Marines).
"Army Service Corps Journal."
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Man of the World."
"John O'Groat Journal."
"The Seventh Regiment Gazette" (7th N. Y. N. G.)

COMPANY AGENTS.

"A" Company—Lance-Corporal Duncan.
"C" " " " Stewart.
"D" " " " Rankin.
"E" " " " Pendergast.
"F" " " " Brodie.
"G" " Private Buckland.
"H" " Lance-Corporal Peters.
Band—Private Gadd.
Dalhousie Depôt—Lance-Corporals Forbes and Little.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line*—

With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union, non-commissioned officers and men of the Regiment. } Rs. 2 per annum.

Officers and others not connected with the Regiment. } Rs. 3 per annum.

NOTA BENE.

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *The Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contribution should be written clearly, in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money-orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

"The Thin Red Line,"

THE REGIMENTAL PAPER

OF THE

2nd Bn. Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

PRESS OPINIONS.

"A particularly bright and cheery little paper."—*The Soldier.*

"Full of interesting items"—*Scottish Referee.*

"The brave old 93rd has much reason to be proud of it."—*Rothesay Express.*

"It is spicy, it is spirited, and it is entertaining."—*Glasgow Evening News.*

"A bright little Journal."—*Scottish Sport.*

Illustrated from original pen-and-ink sketches, wash drawings, photo-zincotypes, &c.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Are being booked at the following rates:—

	One month.	Three months. *Per month.*	Six months. *Per month.*	One year, *Per month.*
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Whole page	20	18	15	12
One column	15	12	10	8
Half "	11	9	8	6
Quarter "	7	6	5	4
One-eighth column ...	6	4	3	2

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THE MANAGER,
Mian Mir.,

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As supplied to the Head-Quarters Mess, Civil Camp, &c., during the Durbar.

"OUR SPECIALITY." "OUR SPECIALITY."

THE DURBAR FAVOURITE WHISKY.

CUTLER, PALMER & Co.'s

Special Blend.

RS. 29 PER DOZ.

RS. 29 PER DOZ.

SELECTED DISTILLATIONS OF OLD SCOTCH WHISKY.

THE CHOICEST PRODUCT OF SCOTLAND.

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CUTLER, PALMER & CO.,

THE MALL, LAHORE.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 8.—Vol. II. DALHOUSIE,—AUGUST 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

WITH the exception of the rumour that Nowshera, and not Peshawar, is to be our next station, there is next door to nothing to chronicle this month, regimental topics being at a premium. What advantages the former station may have over the latter one, of course we cannot say; but it is supposed to be healthier, and is consequently a more suitable and popular change from Mian Mir than Peshawar would be. We had been promised by a most obliging contemporary a full account and description of the cantonment of Peshawar, and what would be expected of us, in the way of duty, when arrived there; but if Nowshera is to be our destination, we are afraid that our readers will have to content themselves with the route only which is published on another page.

An old Ninety-third's man, in the person of Armourer-Sergeant J. W. Ewan, of the 1st V. B. Gordon Highlanders, has come out as champion of the Aberdeen District Scottish Twenty Club. The *People's Journal*, in chronicling Sergeant Ewan's success, says:—"Although Armourer-Sergeant Ewan has never hitherto taken a prominent position in local competitions, he has long been looked upon as a steady shot. He learned how to find the bull's-eye in the army, having joined the 93rd Highlanders in 1878. He has attended several of the Darnley meetings, and last year he took first place at the Council Prize Competition, having electrified his compeers by running on eleven bulls in succession at 500 yards. He has nerves of steel, and, in addition to these, eye-sight that will yet, no doubt, carve out for him a first place amnog crackshots."

Armourer-Sergeant Ewan served in "C" company of this battalion, which he left with the rank of sergeant in 1885.

* * * * * *

Two most interesting competitions have lately taken place between our sergeants and the sergeants of the Border Regiment at Mankote. The first, on Wednesday the 10th July, took the form of a football match, and resulted, as reported on

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another page by an inspired contributor, in a draw. This was followed by a shooting match on the succeeding Wednesday, which resulted in a win for ours by 36 points. In the former match the Border's were at home, whilst on the range our sergeants returned the compliment; and after the more serious pleasures two most enjoyable evenings were spent. A cricket match, as an odd even, is talked about, and will probably be decided at some early date.

* * * * * *

John O'Groat Journal has this to say about the pipers of the 1st Sutherland Highland Rifle Volunteers :—

It might not, perhaps, be too bold to say that not another volunteer corps in the kingdom possesses such a large and well-trained pipe band as the Sutherland battalion. This may be partly accounted for by the enthusiasm of their pipe-major, Mr. A. R. Campbell, the Governor of the Sutherland Combination Poorhouse at Bonar-Bridge, who formerly served as piper in the 26th Cameronians, and subsequently as pipe-major in the 92nd Gordon Highlanders in various parts of the world. No doubt the lively interest evinced in the band by the commanding officer of the corps, Colonel Duncan Menzies, Blairich, is an incentive to emulation amongst the pipers. At the same time it must not be overlooked that neither pipe-major nor colonel could have such a proficient band under them unless the men themselves were musically inclined and co-operated with their superiors in acquiring efficiency. The band numbers somewhat about 70 members. On a recent occasion they met for combined practice at Ardgay and Bonar-Bridge, when both pipers and drummers acquitted themselves in a manner that reflected credit on themselves, their officers, their corps and their county.

It is to be hoped, should any of these braw pipers feel inclined to serve Her Majesty in real earnest, that they will not forget the corps whose name and tartan they so proudly bear — the old Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders.

* * * * * *

The Army Temperance Association gave a grand ball in the Assembly Rooms on the evening of the 17th July; dancing commencing at 9 P.M., the string band of the Border Regiment being in attendance.

* * * * * *

There was an entertainment in the Assembly Rooms on the evenings of the 2nd and 3rd July, at which Pipe-Major Ferguson and Pipers Lynch, McKenzie and McDougall danced a reel. Part II consisted of a play, "Barbara," which was excellently rendered.

* * * * * *

Quite an innovation occurred on the 3rd instant, the band playing a selection in the hospital grounds, which, as may be expected, was greatly appreciated by the patients.

* * * * * *

Another concert, this time in aid of the Church Organ Fund, took place in the Assembly Rooms on the last of July, the programme being all that could be desired. Mrs. Miller's songs were, as usual, much appreciated, whilst the violin valse by the Misses Shepherd, the youngest of whom appeared to be not more than thirteen years of age, was very prettily given. It is hopeed that a substantial addition to the Organ Fund has been the result.

* * * * * *

A grand instrumental concert by the combined bands of the Borders and ours, together with drums, flutes and pipers, was advertised for the evening of the 27th July in front of the Bull's Head Hotel. On the day appointed rain had been falling for several hours, and when it eventually cleared a very thick fog prevailed, which made it at first doubtful whether the entertainment could take place. In spite of the weather, however, the band calls sounded, and the performers marched on to the ground in good time. Unfortunately there were not many civilian visitors, but the military element was fairly represented, and appeared to be most appreciative.

At 9-30 P.M. an earthenware vessel filled with powder was exploded, a rocket was fired, the bugles sounded the "Last Post" and introduced the following programme, which reflects the greatest credit upon the musical directors :—

1. GRAND MILITARY TATTOO ... ... *Saro.*
Conductor—Bandmaster W. H. DAVIES, Ninety-third Highlanders.
2. OVERTURE ... ... "William Tell" ... ... *Rossini.*
Conductor—Bandmaster T. CLEAR, Border Regiment.
3. NAUTICAL FANTASIA ... "Voyage in a Troopship" ... *Miller.*
Conductor—Bandmaster W. H. DAVIES.
4. DESCRIPTIVE QUADRILLE ... "The British Army" ... *Jullien.*
Conductor—Bandmaster T. CLEAR.

PART I.

1. GRAND MILITARY TATTOO ... ... *Saro*

Gun.
First Post.
March of the Scotch Brigade.
"The Campbells are Coming."
Roll of Drums.
Signal Calls for Infantry.
March of the Infantry Brigade.
Signal Calls for Cavalry.
March of the Cavalry Brigade.
First Post of Cavalry.
Roll of Drums.
The Prayer Amen—Grand Hymn.
Last Post of the Cavalry Brigade.
Finale.

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2. OVERTURE ... ... "William Tell" ... ... *Rossini*
Introducing the Grand Storm Scene in the Alps.

PART II.

3. NAUTICAL FANTASIA ... "Voyage in a Troopship" ... *Miller.*

Introduction—"The Soldier's Tear"; "All hands up Anchor"; "Double"; "Then fair thee well, fair Portsmouth Town"; Chorus—"He, ho! blow the man down"; "The Anchor's Weighed"; "A Wet Sheet and a Flowing Sea"; "Bay of Biscay"; Storm Chorus—"The Prayer in the Storm"; "Santa Lucia"; Chorus—"We'll rant and we'll roar like true British Sailors"; "Tom Bowling"; "The White Squall"; Saturday night in the Fo'c'sle; Finale—"Rule Britannia."

4. DESCRIPTIVE QUADRILLE ... "The British Army" ... *Jullien.*

Introduction—The Encampment; Night; Challenge of Sentinels—"All's well"; Tramp of distant Patrol; The Reveille; The Camp in motion.

No. 1.—March to Grand Parade.
No. 2.—The Inspection; Music of the Infantry; "The Dashing White Sergeant," with variations.
No. 3.—Music of the Artillery; Field Exercise.
No. 4.—Music of the Cavalry, with variations for brass instruments; The galloping of horses.

Interlude—Nightfall; The Camp in repose; "Go to bed, Tom"; Troops of the enemy advancing in the distance; Expected attack; The Camp again in motion; Signal calls are heard summoning the Staff; "The Alarm"; "Stand to your Arms"; Advance of the English Regiments—"The British Grenadiers"; The Irish Regiments—"Garry Owen"; The Scottish Regiments—"Highland Laddie."

No. 5.—General Advance—The Attack; Victory—"See the Conquering Hero comes."

FINALE.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

* * * * * *

A home correspondent, from whom we are very pleased to hear, has furnished us with a cutting from the *Helensburgh Times*, which contains the account of a rifle match between "A" and "E" Companies of the 1st Dumbarton Rifle Volunteers (one of our Volunteer battalions) for the Wylie Cup, a much coverted trophy in the corps. Sergeant-Major McDonald, late Color-Sergeant of "H" Company, and Sergeant-Instructor Scott, late Color-Sergeant of "F" Company, figure as the highest scorers of their respective teams with scores of 92 each. "A" Company were victorious in the competition, winning by the narrow margin of seven points.

* * * * * *

Cluny Macpherson, chief of the clan Chattan, in responding to an address presented to him by his clansmen at Cluny Castle on the Queen's birthday, proudly alluded to his long service in the gallant Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders, of which he was Colonel, says the July number of the *Celtic Monthly*.

* * * * * *

From the route to Peshawar, which is published on page 96, it will be seen that our march to the frontier will occupy at least five weeks, the distance being about 285 miles. This is usually accomplished in twenty-five marches in dry weather, but should the reverse be the case two extra halts will have to be called, as the rivers Chenab and Jhelum will be 'out,' and the difficulties of crossing will have to be overcome by the aid of the steam ferry, the pleasures of which we have previously experienced when crossing the Sutlej at Ludhiana on our march here from Dagshai.

In all probability we shall leave here late in December, and may look forward to spending Hogmanay and New Year's day on the march. No "first footing" for 1891.

* * * * * *

For the third time since the *Thin Red Line* has been published, it is our good fortune to have no deaths of men in the regiment to chronicle for the late month. Even at Dagshai we were hardly so fortunate as this, the mournful strains of a coranach being heard more or less frequently nearly every month. This clean sheet rather dispels the evil reputation that Mian Mir formerly possessed. Dalhousie of course is about one of the healthiest spots in India, though, very curiously, the health of the wing in the plains is much better than that of head-quarters.

TYPES OF THE INDIAN ARMY.
No. 1—1st (Bill) Sikhs.

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Flies.

—o—

I felt a sort of tickling that upset my repose,
A tickling and a fickling along my Roman nose;
And the innocent young insect that caused all my woes—
Was a fly.

FLIES are insects, and any one wishing to know further particulars regarding them is respectfully referred to Natural History. This article or effusion is simply the result of a month in hospital, where I have had plenty of leisure time to study the ways and means—I might even say the mean ways—of flies. One of the earliest maxims I remember having drummed into my ears is that "everything was created for a purpose," and the problem over which I have been pondering is the purpose for which flies were created. As a test of patience, I admit they are unequalled; whilst for perseverance and fixity of purpose, they are second to none, not even accepting the pig-headed ant. Notice a fly when he spies an open tin of Golden Syrup (perhaps better known as Dundee Beef).* He makes up his mind to have some of that syrup, and swoops down on it, regardless of consequences, regardless even of life itself, and proceeds to gorge himself with the tempting mixture. Of course he invariably gets stuck in the sticky compound, and remains there until rescued or slaughtered by the owner of the delicacy. Whether the fly realizes its danger, I know not; whether he continues his gorge in captivity, I cannot say; but I do know that the fly remains there, and, in the majority of cases, is not alone.

How often we find flies in milk and tea; and the thinking man ponders over them and tries to weave out the story of their lives—how many victims there may be to unrequited love; how many suicides prompted to throw themselves headlong into the deep abyss to seek refuge from their remorseless consciences. As to their perseverance it is simply marvellous, and it is no doubt that there the fly ranks high. Should you happen to be deeply interested in a novel and in a moment of absent-mindedness happen to brush a fly off the tip of your nose, does that fly go away in a huff? Far from it. It will simply fly around for a few seconds, and then calmly settle on your forehead, and endeavour to effect an entrance into your eyes, ears, nose or mouth, in a most calm and collected manner, utterly ignoring the fact that you have repulsed it so rudely not a minute before.

Flies are not dainty, and whatever you have for breakfast, dinner or tea seems to be the exact dish they would have ordered, had the choice been left to them.

Flies, or, more strictly speaking, a fly was the cause of a most serious rupture between myself and one of my oldest chums in this country. There were only the three of us in the tent,—my chum, myself and the fly,—and things were fairly comfortable. I got about three minutes of the society of the fly, and then it would transfer its affections to my chum, and I would get some peace. Well, as I said before, that was not so bad; but my chum basely deserted me, and then I knew no peace. I was left alone with that fly, and never till that moment did I realize the amount of room such a small insect could take up. We are not on speaking terms now—not the fly, but my chum.

MAC.

* Golden Syrup, or Dundee Beef, is not usually included among the extras allowed in hospital.—ED.

—:o:—

Monsoon Moans.

—o—

OH! the monsoon time when the rain comes down,
And soldiers' faces wear many a frown;
For their pipe-clayed straps look a dingy brown—
And that's a fact.

In a bungalow it's bad enough,
And soldiering there is rather rough;
For a man can't possibly clean his buff—
And that's a fact.

But in a tent there ain't no word,
Bar swearing and cursing nought is heard;
To attempt to cease is simply absurd—
And that's a fact.

But if brought up you can bet your hat,
The excuse of "the rain" falls rather flat;
You can thank your stars if you only get "sat"—
And that's a fact.

MAC.

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Sergeants' Mess Doings.

—o—

FOOTBALL MATCH.

ON the evening of the 10th July, in response to an invitation from the sergeants of Mankote (2nd Seaforth and 2nd Border Regiments), a party of our sergeants journeyed to the Dhobie Flat to try conclusions with their hosts at the noble game of football.

On the rival teams stripping, it was evident that business was meant, the costumes being most workmanlike, particularly that of Sergeant Meston, Captain of the Ninety-third team, and many were the enquiries regarding the missing spot: however, treating these remarks with the contempt they deserved, he marshalled his forces and, arranging his men in echêlon, announced to the referee that the engagement might proceed.

The "Hosts" having won the toss, Sergeant Meston, by a dexterous movement of his foot, kicked off, and the struggle commenced, when it was at once evident that our team was outpaced and the "Hosts" began to press: however, our back defence was grand, the forcible kicking of Sergeant Murray eliciting rounds of applause, whilst the tackling of Lance-Sergeant Stewart was grand, and Lance-Sergeant Patten in goal proved a tower of strength.

Our forwards had but little chance of distinguishing themselves during the first half, but when one occurred they were on it like a bird (one of those so commonly met with in camps), and Lance-Sergeant Thomson gave a grand exhibition of dribbling—at least he would have done, only he unfortunately missed the ball.

At half time the score stood two goals to *nil* in favour of the Hosts, but on play being resumed Sergeant Meston with a grand somersault, accompanied by a war-whoop worthy of Mayne-Reid, rallied his men, and play became more even; the strict training of the Ninety-third team now began to make itself felt.

Nothing worthy of note took place till within seven minutes from time, when, from a grand kick by Sergeant Murray, Sergeant Gunn got on the ball and, taking it down the left, centred beautifully, whereupon Sergeant Mackie, coming with a great rush, put it through amidst deafening cheers.

Now the excitement became intense, all straining themselves to the uttermost.

Sergeants Ewan and Thomson, working well together, managed to get through the Hosts' back defence, and the former passing to Sergeant Meston, who had been playing grandly throughout, he sent in a regular "hot 'un," and thus equalized within a minute from time.

On the whistle being blown the score stood two goals each in favour of both.

Canteen Sergeant Campbell performed the duties of linesman in his usual efficient manner when on the field, whilst, if he happened to be absent, his verdict could always be obtained from the pavilion.

The teams were composed as follows:—

"Hosts."

Goal.
Lance-Sergeant Francis.

Backs.
Color.-Sergt. Bennett. | Lance-Sergeant Thomson.

Half Backs.
Sergt. Sheppard. Sergeant Parts. Lance-Sergt. Dyke.

Forwards.
Sergt. Walton. | Color-Sergt. Hurley.
Sergt. Manning. | Color-Sergt. Wright.
Sergt. Brierley.

NINETY-THIRD.

Goal.
Lance-Sergeant Patten.

Backs.
Sergt. Murray. | Lance-Sergt. Stewart.

Half Backs.
Lance-Sergt. Towers. Sergt. Ramage. Band Sergt. Peggie.

Forwards.
Sergt. Thomson | Sergt. Meston.
Sergt. Gunn. | Sergt. Ewan.
Sergt. Mackie.

As all played so well, no special mention need be made of any particular player.

On the conclusion of the match all adjourned to the pavilion, where the inner man was carefully catered for, and when all were clothed and in their right minds an improvised smoke took place, which lasted well on till morning. Some sergeants say that it lasted for two days, but I can't vouch for the truth of that.

VERITAS.

SHOOTING MATCH.

As an outcome of the football match, alluded to above, on the 17th of July, the sergeants of Mankote and ours tried conclusions at musketry.

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The conditions were 12 aside, the best 10 scores to count; 7 rounds at 500 and 7 at 600 yards; three sighting shots allowed at each distance.

The weather could not have been better, and some creditable scores were made, notably in the match between Canteen Sergeant Campbell, Ninety-third, and Drum-Major Smith of the Borders.

After an exciting contest our sergeants won by 36 points. Refreshments were provided on the range, and there appears to be a diversity of opinion as to whether their presence there caused the falling-off of the scores at 600 yards. However, most put it down to a cross wind that sprang up.

The match between Canteen Sergeant Campbell and Drum-Major Smith was at 500 yards, 7 shots each, no sighting shots allowed. Between two such noted marksmen it is not surprising that two possibles were made—at least that is the last thing I remember the two gentlemen telling me that they would have done had they fired.

PULL THROUGH.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

That some convalescents have joined.

That the tug-of-war team *wasn't* requisitioned.

That cold water is a good cure for ague?

That "Rags" has joined the "Starchers."

That more men are off to the hills

That the weather has not been quite so warm.

That the latest coffee shop delicacy is a plate of "bus.',

That the prison duties are not so heavy.

That some one have been counting their chickens.

What its Dalhousie cousin says:—

That the monsoon has set in at last.

That the stone on the hills is there yet.

That the A. T. A. dance was a success.

That the band are going to eclipse it.

That it's had a lot of "dingy."

That there was phenomenal scoring on the range on the 17th.

That Bannikhet is an excellent half-way house on Wednesday evenings.

That the grand tattoo was spoiled by the weather.

That there are no sergeant's weekly dances this season.

———:o:———

A Regimental Giant.

—o—

SERGEANT SAM MCDONALD, who died at Guernsey, on May 6th, 1802, at the age of forty, was well known at the time by the appellation of "Big Sam." He served in the American War, was afterwards fugleman to the Royals, and subsequently lodge porter at Carlton House. In 1793 he was appointed Sergeant in the Sutherland Fencibles, joining the Ninety-third when it was raised. He measured 6 feet 10 inches in height, 4 feet round the chest, was strongly built, muscular and well proportioned. His strength was prodigious, but he was never known to abuse it. His tomb was restored by the non-commissioned officers of the Seventy-ninth Cameron Highlanders in 1820, and in 1870 by the officers of the Ninety-third.

OUR FIRST VOLUME.

A VERY LIMITED number of Volume I, bound in cloth, are now ready. Price Rs. 10.

Orders should be sent to the MANAGER, Mian Mir, India, at once.

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Right Wing Notes at Mian Mir.

IF there was a scarcity of news last month, there has certainly been no improvement this; and were it not for the advent of a couple of "gaffs," and for the energy of our temperance correspondent, it would be almost impossible to fill even one page of notes made "Under the Punkah."

The celebration of the Mahometan festival of the Mohurram at Lahore, on the 4th and 5th July, caused the wing to be confined to barracks for those two days, as outbreaks are of not unusual occurrence during these religous demonstrations, and the fanaticism of Mahometans is well known. However, the festival passed off without any disturbance, and this precaution was unnecessary.

A piece of news that will probably be—or would have been, had we to spend another summer here—of interest to the left half battalion is that the front post of the Prison Guard has been discontinued, and the sentry is no longer exposed to the rays of a tropical sun. Our ever thoughtful Commanding Officer, Major Campbell, together with Surgeon-Major Barrington, have been answerable for this being brought about, since which the hospital roll has visibly decreased and the "nights-in-bed" have mended.

The first so-called theatrical company to visit the regimental theatre was the Sullivan troupe (two performers) of Sullivan and Ino notoriety, and the less said about their performance the better. This was to have been followed by another troupe, who were advertised to play for a couple of nights, and would no doubt have been worth seeing, as, besides several "stars," the names of Messrs. Myatt and Lamacraft, late of the 18th Hussars, R. D. C., graced the programmes; however, their visit has been indefinitely postponed. The theatre, however, received a two nights visit from another company, who, in addition to some conjuring and sleight-of-hand tricks, gave a lantern display, entitled a trip round the world in thirty minutes, the entertainer taking us to Stirling and many other familiar places.

A temperance correspondent sends the following:—

On the night of the 24th July the members of "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge I. O. G. T. and a large number of visitors and friends assembled in the Lodge room, Lucknow street, when an open sessions was held. After the Lodge had been opened in due form by Bro. Short, C. T., and the usual business disposed of, Bro. Tydeman, "Perseverance and Hope" Lodge, Lahore, and Sister Mulvany of the same Lodge, addressed the meeting. The guest of the evening, Bro. Davis, S. T. D. G. C. T., who is making a tour throughout India, was then introduced by the Chief Templar. Bro. Harris then addressed the meeting, and held his audience enthralled during the course of an hour and a half, and at the conclusion of his speech conveyed a message from the Rev. A. H. Bateson, General Secretary, A. T. A., to all members of that Association, wishing them every success in the future. Bro. Short brought this successful meeting to a close at 10-45 p.m.

Major Campbell has been away on ten days' leave, but returned on the 31st, whilst Captain McNeill has gone to Somali land for three months. Lieutenant Macdonald and 2nd Lieutenant Campbell are also away on short leave. Captain Robinson and Lieutenants Darroch and Marshall have returned after three months' absence, the latter going to Fort Lahore as Commandant with "D" Company, who relieved "A" on the 23rd ultimo. The following is the Wing Gazette:—

To be Orderly Room Sergeant.—No. 2760, Sergeant J. Gunn, "C" Company.

To be Hospital Writer.—No. 3611, Lance-Corporal D. Maskell, "D" Company, *vice* Harris on furlough.

To be Conservancy Overseer.—No. 1560, Private W. Wilcox, "B" Company.

To be employed in Grocery Bar.—No. 2976, Private W. McLean, "B" Company.

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Remarkable Wounds and Escapes.

—o—

"SEVERAL remarkable wounds," says Dr. Munro in his account of the attack on the Shah Nujiff by the Ninety-third during the Mutiny, "came under my notice that day. One man (Private Potter) had very prominent eyes and a very flat nose; a bullet passed across his face and cut both eyes open without touching his nose. Lance-Corporal Flynn was struck by a bullet on the outer edge of the right orbit, which broke the bone and grooved the temple. I dressed his wound, and desired him to sit down amongst the other wounded. But, the moment my back was turned, he walked off and joined the regiment, remarking to those about him, 'Am no that bad that I canna gang back and kill some more o' they niggers!' I did not miss him; but some two hours after he presented himself before me again, a second bullet having struck him on the same spot, ripping the bandage and dressing off, and grooving the temple more deeply than the first had done. A third man (Private Saunderson) was struck by a bullet on the outer edge of the left orbit, which broke the bone and cut the skin of the temple and blinded him instantly, though there was not any apparent injury to the eyeball. Eight years afterwards an abscess formed in the vicinity of the cicatrix of the wound, and, on opening this, I saw a dark movable body lying at the opening, and which without difficulty I extracted. It was the half of the round leaden bullet. The explanation of this case is as follows:—The bullet had been split on the sharp edge of the orbit, one-half had passed on cutting the skin of the temple, while the other half had entered the orbit and lodged under the eyeball, and, wonderful to say, had remained there during eight years without causing the man any inconvenience.

"I could tell of other remarkable wounds, but this is not a treatise on surgery. I must mention two more, however, and then have done. The first is that of Lieutenant Goldsmith (93rd), who, seeing a man take deliberate aim at him from the wall of the Shah Nujiff, without removing his eye from the fellow, snatched a rifle from one of his own company and took a snapshot at the man. Both weapons must have been fired at the same moment, for the sepoy threw up his arms and fell, whilst *his* bullet struck Goldsmith on the back of the left wrist, which supported the barrel of the rifle, ran up his forearm and came out at the elbow without breaking or injuring any bone. Had the bullet not struck his wrist it would have passed through Goldsmith's heart, for they were in exactly the same line.

"On the first of December the enemy opened fire on the regiment while at muster-parade, their roundshot passing right through our camp. One man, who was sitting in his tent mending his tattered kilt, had an extraordinary escape; a roundshot came bowling over the ground, burst through the tent and struck him on the back, turning him over like a nine-pin. He was not killed, only badly bruised, and certainly very much astonished, as I myself was, at his escape."

During the relief of Lucknow the same writer also chronicles some marvellous wounds and escapes: "Hay, Ewart, Clarke and McBean," he says, "were all shot through their bonnets, a couple of inches making all the difference to them between life and death. One man only was shot through the head; another was struck in the very centre of the forehead, but the rim of his bonnet broke the force of the bullet, which, however, had still enough force to penetrate the bone and lodge deep in the substance of the brain, from where I could not venture to remove it. But, strange to say, that man did not fall when wounded, but walked some hundreds of yards to where I was, and—what is still more strange—he had no pain, no loss of consciousness. He simply said that he was 'a wee thing confused and giddy.' The wound closed, and he was sent home and discharged. Two years afterwards I heard from the Depôt that the man was still alive, though 'gettin sort o' silly like!' Poor fellow, I suppose the brain was softening. Colonel Hay was struck on the waist belt, and his saddle was ripped up, and Captain Clarke's claymore was broken in the middle and his kilt shot through!"

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What the Mail Found.

—o—

THE sun has set in a fiery glow
On a foreign fort, in a foreign land ;
The soldiers saunter or talk in groups ;
The young moon shines like a crescent brand ;
The short lurid gloaming, moist and grey,
Shadows the air : it is hot and still,
But the languid soldiers quicken to life
At the magic call of a bugle shrill.

"Orderly Corporals ! " English mail ?
Some for many, for others none ;
Letters from mothers, sweethearts and friends,
Fond letters wishing long years were done.
One addressed, in a trembling hand,
To a son, far off from a mother's care.
Ah, mother ! 'tis well that you cannot hear
The returning band play "The Vacant Chair."

Over the plain and across the moat,
Back they come with martial tread.
Back march the company, one the less ;
Back come the living, without the dead.
Back come the bayonet, helmet, and chain
That were carried out on the Union Jack.
Only one unclaimed letter from home
Stands by itself in the letter rack.

Little white letter that came so far
With tender words that were never read,
Back must you speed o'er the seas you crossed,
To tell the mother her son is dead.
Back to the dear hearts waiting in vain,
With your seal of grief and your word of fate ;
Back, little letter, from whence you came,
To tell her the mail was too late, too late.

IVY—*In the Nines.*"

:o:

Medals with Clasps.

—o—

AMONGST soldiers actually serving, Lord Wolseley wears the greatest number of clasps—one for the Crimea, two for China, two for the Indian Mutiny, two for South Africa, and seven for Egypt—total, fourteen, exclusive of medals, stars, and other decorations. The British war medal having the greatest number of clasps, namely, twenty-eight, is that known as the Peninsula Medal. It was granted in 1847 (struck and presented in 1848) to the surviving officers and men of the Army and Navy who had taken part in any of the victories obtained over the French, in various parts of the world, between 1793 and 1814. The following are the clasps for the Peninsula War : "Roleia," "Vimiera," "Corunna," "Talavera," "Busaco," "Fuentes d'Onor," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Pyrenees," "Salamanca," "Vittoria," "Neville," "Nive," "Orthes," and "Toulouse." Samuel Gibson, of the Inniskillings, who died about a year ago in the Caterham Asylum, having served in the Peninsula, had one of these medals with fourteen clasps. Another with fourteen clasps was held in his lifetime by Peter Marsh, of the 95th, and was sold, after his death, for £23. One of the commissionaires has a medal which has about an equal number of clasps, the chief ones being : "Alexandria" (bombardment), "El-Teb," "Tamai," "The Nile, 1884-1885," "Abu Klea," "Kirbekan," "Suakim, 1884," "Suakim, 1885," and "Tofrek." Another commissionaire has the Afghan Medal with six clasps, namely, "Kandahar," "Ahmed Khel," "Char-aseab," "Peiwar Kotal," "Ali Masjid," and "Cabul" ; he also has the bronze star, given to the troops who took part in General Roberts' famous march from Cabul to Kandahar.

—*The Sprig of Shillelagh.*

:o:

A Brave Indian Soldier.

—o—

GENERAL Sir Hope Grant, in his narrative of the Indian Mutiny, relates an anecdote which does equal honor to himself and one of his native soldiers. The British had been fighting all day, driving the rebels before them. After nightfall, however, a party of the rebels made a new demonstration, and General Grant, seeing two of his guns in danger, collected a few men and charged. He says :—

"A sepoy within five yards of me fired at my horse, and put a bullet through his body. It was singular he did not aim at me ; but probably he thought it best to make sure of killing the horse, after which the rider would fall into his hands as a matter of course.

I felt that my poor charger had received his death-wound ; yet he galloped on for fifty yards through the throng of rebels, and then dropped. I was in an awkward predicament—unhorsed, surrounded by the enemy, and, owing to the darkness, ignorant in which direction to proceed—when my orderly, a native horseman, Rooper Khan by name, rode up to me and said, "Take my horse. It is your only chance of safety."

I could not but admire his fine conduct. He was a Hindustanee Mussulman, belonging to a regiment the greater part of which had mutinied ; and it would have been easy for him to kill me and go over to the enemy.

I refused his offer ; but taking a firm grasp of his horse's tail, I told him to draw me out of the crowd. This he did successfully and with great courage.

The next morning I called him to my tent, praised him for his gallant behaviour, and offered him some money. He declined it with great dignity."

"No, sahib, I will take no money," he said, drawing himself up ; but if you will get my Commanding Officer to promote me, I shall be very grateful."

He was duly promoted, and received also the second class order of merit.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

Taken on the paid establishment of his rank :—

No. 4945, Lance-Corporal R. Wright, "C" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Drill Sergeant to Battalion.—Sergeant J. H. Symcox, "A" Company.

To be Drill Sergeant to Head-quarters Wing.—Sergeant J. Irvine, "F" Company.

ATTAINED EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE.

The following have attained the age of eighteen years :—

No. 4058, Drummer James Buchanan, "F" Company.
No. 5081, Drummer Richard Kelley.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following non-commissioned officers have passed the Professional examinations for promotion to Corporal :—

No. 4304, Lance-Corporal A. Hansen, "A" Company.
,, 959 ,, ,, J. Reid, "F" Company.
,, 1588 ,, ,, H. McPake, "F" ,,
,, 3775 ,, ,, G. Forbes, "B" ,,

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following have been granted 2*d.* per diem :—

"D" Company.

No. 3197, Pte. J. Bass. | No. 3206, Pte. E. Smith.
,, 3198 ,, A. Allan. | ,, 3036 ,, A. Brydon.
,, 3175 ,, F. Bennett. | ,, 3186, Lce-Corpl. H. Robinson.

"E" Company.

No. 3158, Pte. E. Stewart. | No. 3178, Pte. E. Jacks.
,, 3196 ,, E Barker | ,, 3185, L.-Cpl. J. Adams.
,, 3199 ,, W. Ackland. | ,, 3201, Pte. C. Sparling.
,, 3207 ,, H. Gosling. | ,, 3171 ,, F. Morton.

"F" Company.

No. 3153, L.-Cpl. H. Brodie. | No. 3179, Pte. G. Finch.

"G" Company.

No. 2370, Pte. T. Liddle. | No. 3147, L.-Cpl. G. Franks.

"H" Company.

No. 3203, Pte. Willis. | No. 3181, Pte. W. Griffiths.
No. 3202, Lce.-Corpl. MacDougall.

The following have been restored 2*d.* per diem :—

"C" Company.
No. 1846, Pte. G. Evans.
"G" Company.
No. 2817, Private J. Wiggins.

The following have been granted 1*d.* per diem :—

"C" Company.
No. 3952, Private W. McLean.
"E" Company.
No. 4205, Pte. W. Kitchen. | No. 3444, Pte. A Kay.
No. 4237, Pte. J. Kellaghar.
"F" Company.
No. 4821, Private W. Millar.
"G" Company.
No. 4229, Private J. Sheridan.
"H" Company.
No. 4832, Pte. T. Bradley. | No. 3719, Pte. A. Newland.
No. 4402, Private J. Aitkin.

The following have been restored 1*d.* per diem :—

"A" Company.
No. 1623, Private J. McNulty.
"G" Company.
No. 4364, Private J. Laird.
"H" Company.
No. 3661, Private A. Simmonds.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

	"H" Company.	£.	*s.*	*d.*
No. 3144,	Corporal G. Olden	0	14	4¼
,, 3261,	,, E. Rose	0	11	0½
,, 2451,	Private Sear	0	8	10
,, 2927,	,, C. McLean	0	7	1¼
,, 3738,	,, A. Sutton	0	3	10¼
,, 4771,	,, J. Oliver	0	3	10¼
	Commander of Best Shooting Section.			
No. 1529,	Color-Sergeant Bush	0	6	1
	Commander of Second Best Section.			
No. 3261,	Corporal E. Rose	0	3	0¾

DEATHS.

HANSON.—At the Station Hospital, Dalhousie, Florence Mary, the infant daughter of No. 2169, Lance-Sergeant Hanson, aged 6 days.

:o:

French Opinion of British Troops.

—o—

"THE English troops were magnificent in appearance; their bearing was irreproachable; they manœuvred with rare precision, but with that reflecting and slow calm which is the stamp of the nation, and which is to be found in the soldiers as well as the officers." Thus writes the Baron de Bazancourt in his "Expedition to the Crimea" :—"The nsemble was remarkable in every respect; the discipline severe; the manner in which the officer commanded was sharp and haughty; but never were the chiefs to be seen in a passion with their men. What a strange contrast with the bearing of our (French) troops!—with their dashing, easy gait, their martial and energetic air, the impetuosity which is stamped on all their faces! On looking at our soldiers we feel that ardour and impatience run through all their veins, and we can understand that in the hour of combat the unforeseen may at any instant arise from a difficult situation. In the English army, on the contrary, impossibility seems a duty; the officer in command knows at a glance what each one of his soldiers can do, and that not one will fail him. But, on the other hand, not one, by a sudden inspiration, will exceed what was expected from him."

AN EASTERN PARROT STORY.—A simple Hindu countryman coming into a city was shown a handsome green parrot. "What's the price of this bird?" said he. "Twenty rupees," was the answer. "Too much," said the countryman. "Well," said the owner, "let us ask the bird. Are you worth twenty rupees, Polly?" "There's no doubt of that," said the bird. So the villager bought the wonderful bird and took him away, but soon found that the parrot only knew one sentence, "There's no doubt of that" At last he exclaimed with vexation, "I was a fool to give twenty rupees for this parrot." "There's no doubt of that," answered the bird promptly. And the man laughed and set him free.

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A Daring Drummer Boy.

—o—

"IMMEDIATELY after the powder left by the enemy had been removed from the Shah Nujif," says Mr. Forbes Mitchell, writing of the relief of Lucknow in his *Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny*, "and the sun had dispelled the fog which rested over the Gomtee and the city, it was deemed necessary to signal to the Residency to let them know our position, and for this purpose our Adjutant, Lieutenant William McBean, Sergeant Hutchinson and Drummer Ross, a boy of about twelve years of age, but even small for his years, climbed to the top of the dome of the Shah Nujif by means of a rough rope-ladder which was fixed on it; thence with the regimental color of the Ninety-third and a feather bonnet on the tip of the staff they signalled to the Residency, and the little drummer sounded the regimental call on his bugle from the top of the dome. The signal was seen and answered from the Residency by lowering their flag three times. But the enemy in the Badshahibagh also saw the signalling and the daring adventurers on the dome, and turned their guns on them, sending several roundshots quite close to them. Their object being gained, however, our men descended; but little Ross ran up the ladder again like a monkey, and, holding on to the spire of the dome with his left hand, waved his feather bonnet, and then sounded the regimental call a second time, which he followed by the call known as *The Cock of the North*, which he sounded as a blast of defiance to the enemy."

—:o:—

Temperance Notes.

—o—

ARMY TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION CONCERT.

A CONCERT, the programme of which follows, was held in the rooms of the above Association at the depôt on the evening of the 29th June, and was such a success that it has been decided to arrange similar entertainments monthly. The singing of Lance-Corporal Brasenell of ours and Sergeant Hodgson, Corporal Clarke, Bandsman Woods and Driver Clark, and the song and dancing of Private Macgregor, call for special mention.

PROGRAMME.

Song ... ... "I'm going to be a Professional."
Bandsman J. BROWN, Ninety-third Highlanders.

Song ... ... "To be there."
Corporal CLARKE, Eleventh Hussars.

Recitation ... ... "Ostler Joe."
Sergeant HODGSON King's Royal Rifles.

Clog Dance ... ... Private FERGUSON, Royal Scots Fusiliers.

Song ... ... "Only to see her face again."
Bombardier WATKINS, R. H. A.

Song ... ... "Sole survivor."
Private FLETCHER, Eleventh Hussars.

Song ... ... "Parody on the Alabama Coon."
Private MACGREGOR, Ninety-third Highlanders.

Encore ... ... Song and Dance.
Concertina Solo ... ... Bandsman WOODS, Border Regt.
Song ... ... "The Lifeboat."
Gunner KINKIN, R. H. A.

Song ... ... "The Guardship."
Lce.-Corpl. MATHIESON Ninety-third Highlanders.

Song ... ... "Withered Leaves."
Private POINTER, Rifle Brigade.

Song and Dance ... ... Private ROY, Border Regt
Stump Speech ... ... Private WILLCOX, Devon Regt.
Song ... ... "When you and I were young."
Gunner KELLY, Sixtieth F. B. R. A.

Song ... ... "The Bugler."
Lce.-Corpl. BRASENELL, Ninety-third Highlanders.

Encore ... ... "The Soldier's Dream."
Song ... ... "The Dress Improver."
Pte. SIMSON, Ninety-third Highlanders.

Song .. .. "I'm out on a Jubilee Spree."
Driver CLARK, Seventy-first F. B. R. A.

Encore ... ... "I took it on."
Song ... ... "Scotland the Brave."
Lance-Corporal BRASENELL.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN-EMPRESS.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS.

The "Pride of Sutherland" Branch Lodge has flourished during the quarter just passed, and the members have added not inconsiderably to their numbers. The sessions have invariably been both pleasant and profitable, many interesting and instructive papers having been read.

* * * * *

"Mountain Spring" (Dalhousie station) Lodge which, by-the-way, is doing some good work, had as their guests on the 26th June the members of "Excelsior" Tent. The Rechabites turned up in good force, and received a fraternal welcome, an excellent tea being provided. After the tables were cleared an exceedingly good programme of songs, recitations and speeches was gone through, and a most pleasant and profitable evening was spent.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES.

"Excelsior" Tent has not done so well this quarter as formerly, though they have not been idle, as the many new faces to be seen amongst their ranks testifies. The attendance of members, however, has not been quite so good as it might be, the A. T. A. dances, which are held on the same evenings as tent meeting, proving a counter attraction to the less enthusiastic brothers.

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The Route to Peshawar.

	Miles.	Furlongs.	Rivers.
Mian Mir to Shahdera ...	8	5	Ravi.—Bridge of boats in dry season; ferry in the rains.
Shahdera to Muridki ...	13	0	
Muridki to Kamoki ...	12	3	
Kamoke to Gujranwala ...	11	2	
Gujranwala to Ghukur ...	10	6	
Ghuker to Wazirabad ...	10	2	
Wazirabad to Kathali, 4 miles 4 furlongs, or to Gujrat.	10	4	Chenab.—Bridge of boats in dry season; ferry in the rains.
Gujrat to Lala Musa ...	9	6	
Lala Musa to Kharian, 9 miles 2 furlongs, or to Jhelum.	13	0	Jhelum.—Bridge of boats in dry season; ferry in the rains.
Jhelum to Deena... ...	12	0	
Deena to Suhawar ...	14	0	
Suhawar to Gujar Khan...	11	6	
Gujar Khan to Mundra ...	9	0	
Mundra to Rewat ...	9	4	
Rewat to Rawalpindi ...	11	2	Sohan.—Bridged.
Rawalpindi to Sani-ke sung.	13	2	
Sani-ke-sung to Hassan Abdul.	14	6	Vah.—Bridged.
Hassan Abdul to Hatti ...	14	2	Chublat and Hurru.—Bridged.
Hatti to Attock Fort ...	13	4	
Attock Fort to Khyrabad	8	2	Indus.—Crossed by subway of railway bridge.
Khyrabad to Akora ...	9	5	
Akora to NOWSHERA Church	8	3	
Nowshera to Taru ...	15	1	
Taru to PESHAWAR Church	11	3	Bara.—Bridged
Total miles ...	284	5	

—:o:—

A Difference of Opinion.

—o—

FROM the memorable wreck of the troopship "Birkenhead," 1852, only three officers (Captain Wright of the 91st Regiment being one) and a handful of men managed, after floating on driftwood for several hours, to get ashore alive. Her Majesty the Queen caused a tablet to be placed in the colonnade at Chelsea Hospital to the memory of Lieut.-Colonel Seton and the officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers who perished in the wreck of the "Birkenhead"; and as Colonel Wright—he had been promoted—was one day showing it to an enthusiastic friend of his, "Dear me, Colonel Wright," she observed, "what a pity 'tis your name is not recorded there, too. "Opinions may differ, madam, on that point," was his pithy reply.

Football.

—o—

ON the 3rd another match between a scratch team of ours and the Border Regiment took place on the Dhobi Flats: our team, although a rather poor one, being victorious by 2 goals to *nil*. The following were our representatives:—Privates Skinner (goal), Scott (back), McDonald, Mathieson and McIntosh (half backs), and Reid, McAulay, McLaren, Clarke and Walls (forwards).

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WE beg to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions from the following:—

Captain S. L. Robinson.
Captain A. H. Middleton, late 93rd Highlanders Milngavie, Scotland.
T. Macalpine Leny, Esquire, Guernsey, Channel Islands.
Private Logie (2 subscriptions).
" Wright.
" Artlett (6 subscriptions, half-yearly).

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9

Sept 95

SUTHERLAND · HIGHLANDERS
93

The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 9.—Vol. II. DALHOUSIE,—SEPTEMBER 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE homeward-bound trooping season for 1895-96 commences on the 16th October, the first regiment for home, the Wiltshires, from Mandaly, leaving Bombay on that date. The first trooper really to leave takes the 7th Hussars to Natal and then proceeds home, but will not arrive at Portsmouth so early as the second. In addition to the Wiltshires, two Batteries of Artillery—"Q" Battery Royal Horse and the 43rd Field—and details from various corps, also leave for Portsmouth. The third trooper takes the Worcester Regiment and 21st Company, Southern Division, Royal Artillery, to Aden, where it picks up the West Yorkshire Regiment, whom we relieved in Dagshai, and 23rd Company, Eastern Division, Royal Artillery, and other details, for home. The fourth and fifth, leaving on the 12th November and 14th December, respectively, are reserved entirely for details; and the sixth, which sails two days after Christmas, in addition, takes the 2nd Royal Lancasters. Details only proceed home by the two following boats on the 11th and 23rd January. The ninth boat takes the 44th and 65th Field Batteries on the 12th February, and the three last leave on the 22nd February, 12th March and 4th April, all containing details, making in all twelve homeward bound troopers.

* * * * * *

"F" Company have finished their musketry course, as have also several parties of casuals; but the Dalhousie ranges are still as treacherous as ever, and the scores need not cause any uneasiness to the premier shooting Company.

* * * * * *

"E" Company have finished their Military training course, the General Officer Commanding being present at their final inspection.

* * * * * *

A correspondent of the band has furnished the following notes, anent the formation of their dance club:—

The combined bands of Dalhousie (Borders and ours) started a dance club on the 1st instant, and held their first practice dance in the school-room on the 3rd. The

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room was decorated for the occasion, and the plentiful supply of light added greatly to its bright and cozy appearance. We have a very large number of members, so mean to make a good thing of it, whilst the two bandmasters are doing all in their power to make it a success. Dancing is about the only amusement to be had up here, Dalhousie seeming very dull this year in comparison with last. The opening night was, unfortunately, a rather damp one,—oh, the monsoon!—which probably accounted for the small number of the fair sex showing up; but we hope to, and no doubt shall, see a good number on future occasions.

* * * * * *

The following cutting from the *Pioneer* will doubtless be read with interest by all ranks:—

Colonel P. Trotter, who was so well known in India when he commanded the 2nd Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (the old 93rd), and whose leave-taking from his regiment last year was such a marked example of regimental good-feeling, is to have the first Scottish Regimental District which becomes vacant. This will be probably Ayr. Colonel Trotter would naturally have preferred Stirling, but he may be congratulated if his lines fall upon the best all-round sporting country in Scotland.

* * * * * *

We take the following from *The Glasgow Evening News* of 10th August:—

The funeral of Captain A. B. Blackburn, of the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who died at his residence, Lansdowne Crescent, Glasgow, on the 8th instant, took place to-day. The deceased officer, who held the post of Adjutant of the Glasgow Highlanders, came of an old Stirlingshire family, the Blackburn's of Killearn, and he was nephew of the late James Blackburn. Born in 1858, he joined the Army when he was 20 years of age, and obtained his Captaincy on 12th June 1886. Captain Blackburn did considerable service abroad, being stationed, among other places, at Gibraltar, Ceylon and Hong-Kong. His first regiment was the 93rd, but he afterwards was transferred to the 91st. Since his appointment to the Adjutancy of the Glasgow Highlanders (5th V. B. H. L. I.) Captain Blackburn made for himself a host of friends in all ranks. His death was due to a chill caught some weeks ago, which afterwards developed pleurisy. He was married only a week ago.

The remains of the late Captain were conveyed to the Central Station this morning, accompanied by a number of the Officers of the Battalion and personal friends.

The casket was placed in the train, and left at 11 o'clock for Edinburgh, where the interment will take place this afternoon in Dean cemetery.

* * * * * *

2nd Lieutenant A. H. Maclean, who attended the last course at the Changla Galli School of Musketry, has been awarded an officer's extra certificate, passing out a very good second.

* * * * * *

The new pattern water bottle has been issued to the head-quarter wing, and is a great improvement upon the leather-covered soda-water bottle which was served out to the battalion when we landed at Karachi in 1891.

* * * * * *

Under authority, G. O C. C. No. 560 of 1895, the following regimental signallers are entitled to a signalling prize for the year 1894-95:—Sergeants W. Smith, "D" Company, and Pringle, "C" Company; Corporals R. Millar, "B" Company, and Rastall, "D" Company; Lance-Corporal W. McLachlan, "C" Company, and Private Chapman, "D" Company.

* * * * * *

A late Pipe-Major of ours, Piper Robb, of the first Battalion, secured two first prizes at the Seventy-second's Highland games at Aldershot—for Highland fling; and marches, strathspey and reels.

* * * * * *

From John Mackay, Esq., C.E., J. P., Hereford, who is well known as a military historian,—and also as an enthusiastic Sutherland Highlander,—the following historical sketch of the Ninety-third has been received, in addition to an annual subscription, which is acknowledged in another column.

The Thin Red Line is now a historic name, commemorating a grand episode in war, highly honourable to the 93rd, my county regiment, and to the gallant Commander, Sir Colin Campbell, whose trust on that occasion in his brave countrymen was not belied by the result. Like commander, like men. Every one of that "thin line tipped with steel" would on that day have fallen "with their backs to the field and their feet to the foe" for commander, county and *esprit de corps*, as they had done at New Orleans, where "victory crowned not their fall with applause." Alma formed a field to display their prowess. Lucknow proved the resistible ardour of Highlanders in attacks with the cold bright steel, which hitherto no foe, black or white, had withstood.

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Equally glorious to the Sutherland Regiment has been its conduct in quarters—from its enrolment, in 1804; to the Cape Colony for eight long years, 1806 to 1814; and every other station to which it had been sent. In 1823, in Ireland, when it was sent to the West Indies, after eight years' stay. Lord Combermere states that "no regiment in the service stands in greater estimation, or has been more conspicious for its discipline and soldier-like conduct than the 93rd." At Canterbury, in 1834, the great Duke of Wellington presented the regiment with new colours, and highly commended it on "the soldier-like appearance and orderly conduct of every individual of the Regiment." In 1843, at Toronto, Canada, this was said of it: "This fine regiment still continues to maintain its character for sobriety and good order, and it is as remarkable for its splendid appearance in the field as for the correctness of its evolutions, and for its quiet and orderly habits in quarters. Its conduct in the Crimea and the Mutiny has been rehearsed by many a pen. Is it not told in its "Historical Records"? All hail to my county regiment! Long may its *esprit de corps* be maintained by officers and men. Long may the historic renown of British Arms be preserved by bravery in the hour of danger, and by good conduct in the piping times of peace.

* * * * * *

With this trooping season a large number of the battalion will be proceeding home time-expired, and those who may have more than a regulation kit—and we are sure there are many, and who have curios and Indian valuables which they wish to take home to their relatives and friends—cannot do better than entrust the same to Messrs. William Watson and Co., the Bankers and Agents at Bombay, who are the sole agents for Messrs. Curtis and Co. of Portsmouth, the well-known Regimental Agents. This enables them to combine the minimum of cost with the maximum of speed in transit; whilst seventeen years' experience in this work has given Messrs. Watson and Co. a system that is hardly capable of improvement. The large number of boxes that pass through their hands *en route* for the old country during each successive trooping season, and the many testimonials they hold, is a sufficient guarantee of the satisfaction they have invariably given.

There was another charity entertainment in the Assembly Rooms on the 21st August,—this time in aid of the Station Hospital,—when "That Dreadful Doctor" and "The Station Cat" were produced. In the former, 2nd Lieutenant Newall of ours took his part capitally, whilst in "The Station Cat," as *Bevington Winsone*, the sporting sub, he was first class. During the interval the Misses Reynolds performed a skirt dance very prettily, and the whole performance may be considered a most successful one.

* * * * * *

Under authority, dated Simla, 25th July 1895, No. 1787, Colour-Sergeant W. Bates, "B" Company, and No. 2032, Sergeant R. Sim, "D" Company, have been granted certificates from Changla Galli School of Musketry, qualifying them as Sergeant Instructors of Musketry for a battalion.

* * * * * *

It is now no longer permissible to use verniers or traversing and paper sights on the rifles when firing at the range.

* * * * * *

An entertainment under Masonic auspices was given in the Assembly Rooms on the evening of the 28th ultimo, which was a great success. Second Lieutenant Graham of ours as a *Captain of Musquetiers* in the "Barber of Seville," which concluded the programme, was very good.

TYPES OF THE INDIAN ARMY.
No. 2.—The Oude Contingent.

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Our Colonels-in-Chief.

—o—

TRANSFER OF GENERAL ERSKINE AND APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL EWART.

LIEUT.-COLONEL Fetherstonhaugh has received the following communication from General G. Erskine, notifying his transfer to the West Riding Regiment:—

UNITED SERVICE CLUB,
PALL MALL, S. W.,
5th August 1895.

MY DEAR SIR,

His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief has notified to me that Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to approve of my transfer from the Colonelcy of Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) to that of the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment in succession to General Hutchinson, deceased. As in the latter corps all my regimental service was passed, it is a gratification to me, as you can well understand, to renew my connection with it, but I trust that you will accept my assurance that I leave with regret the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, for I have always esteemed it a great honour to be associated with so distinguished a regiment; and, let me add, that, although I may cease to belong to it, I shall continue to be deeply interested in its welfare.

Believe me,
Yours sincerely,
GEORGE ERSKINE,
General.

Lieut.-Colonel FETHERSTONHAUGH,
Commanding 2nd Battalion Princess Louise's
(Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders).

To which the following was the reply:—

DALHOUSIE, PUNJAB,
30*th August* 1895.

MY DEAR SIR,

All ranks of the 2nd Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, can well understand the gratification you must feel in renewing your connection with so distinguished a corps as the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment. They beg me to thank you for the kind sentiments expressed in your letter, and we hope that you may have many years to enjoy the distinction now conferred upon you.

Believe me,
Yours sincerely,
J. D. FETHERSTONHAUGH,
Lieut.-Col., 2nd *Battn.*, *Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.*

The appointment of General Sir James Ewart, K.C.B., who served with us through the Mutiny as our Colonel-in-Chief, recalls many stirring episodes, of which he himself was the hero, in that ever memorable campaign. General Ewart, then Lieutenant-Colonel, commanded the rear guard at the advance on Lucknow for its relief, and commanded the regiment in its attack and capture of the Secundra-Bagh, being one of the first to enter the breach; his name, together with that of Captains Cooper and Drummond Stewart of Murthly, being voted for by the officers for the recommendation of the Victoria Cross. Inside the courtyard of that building he performed prodigies of valour, and shot six sepoys successively with his own revolver. He also distinguished himself by a most daring feat, which is told by the author of *The Highland Brigade* in the following words:—

Observing a colour in one of the rooms into which the rebels had retreated, he (Colonel Ewart) determined to possess it, and instead of directing other men to perform the hazardous task, he resolved to do it himself. Quite unassisted, he made a dash at the room, to find the entrance defended by two native officers. With these he at once engaged. The conflict was stubborn. Twice Ewart was wounded, but he clung to his purpose, and fought on till both men lay dead at his feet. Then seizing the colour he carried it proudly forth, and the same evening presented it to Sir Colin Campbell as a trophy of victory.

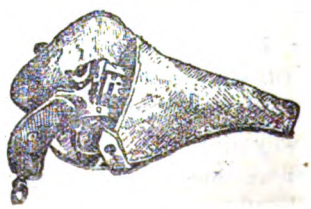
In conclusion, it only remains to echo the sentiments expressed by Colonel Fetherstonhaugh in his letter to our new Colonel-in Chief, which is produced herewith, and to add the hope that the regiment may long enjoy the distinction of his command.

DALHOUSIE, PUNJAB,
30*th August* 1895.

DEAR GENERAL,

Allow me, in the name of all ranks of the 2nd Battalion, to express our gratification on your appointment as Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment. It is with the greatest pleasure that we learn that Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to select an officer whose name has been so closely and gallantly associated with us. Though many years have passed since you were intimately connected with the regiment, we are confident that you still bear its best interests at heart.

Believe me,
Your sincerely,
J. D. FETHERSTONHAUGH,
Lieut.-Col., 2nd *Battn.*, *Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.*



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The Late Sergeant-Major McRae.

—o—

NOT only those now serving with the Battalion, but many old Ninety-third men, will grieve to hear of the death of Sergeant-Major John McRae, which occurred at Dalhousie, from consumption, on the 14th August. Sergeant-Major McRae enlisted in the Ninety-third Highlanders in November 1875, became Corporal in April 1877, Sergeant in November 1880, Color-Sergeant in January 1884, and succeeded his brother, Alexander McRae, as Sergeant-Major in April 1887. Sergeant-Major McRae was a man who possessed, to a very strong degree, that *esprit de corps* which goes to the making of a good regiment. He was ever foremost in promoting and assisting in any plans which would tend to bring the regiment to the fore, either in sport or soldiering. And no one had the interest of the regiment more thoroughly at heart than he. "The old order changeth, giving place to new," and one by one familiar faces and trusty friends leave us, and their place in the regiment is taken by others: but the passing out of our ranks, in the prime of life, of one who, like Sergeant-Major McRae, had served his Queen and his regiment faithfully and well for nigh on twenty years, is indeed a matter for no ordinary regret.

His death was a great surprise to those who had seen him leaving for the hills looking fit and well.

All ranks, we feel sure, will estimate the loss which the battalion has sustained by the death of Sergeant-Major McRae, and will sympathize with his widow in her bereavement.

The funeral, which took place on the 15th August, was probably one of the most imposing seen in Dalhousie for many years; for although the rain was pouring in torrents, all the officers of the head-quarter wing, the non-commissioned officers and most of the men were present, while the majority of the warrant and non-commissioned officers of Mankote, the Depôt, and Banikhet also attended.

Head-quarter Sports.

—o—

ON the 22nd instant, thanks to the energy of Lieutenant Moulton-Barrett and the Committee, a very successful gymkhana was held on the Depôt square, and we believe that this is but the forerunner of one every month.

The weather was very unsettled, though, despite its threatening appearance, no rain fell. The event that caused the most excitement was undoubtedly the "Tug-of-war" between companies. The pull between "H" and "F" Companies was a very trying one, and, considering that neither were a trained team, it shows that there is yet a lot of good raw material from which to reinforce our Regimental Team. In the final, both "G" and "F" Companies showed good form, and it was chiefly through the energy of "F" Company's coach, Private D. C. Macgregor, that they secured the verdict. We have not heard that the gallant coach has yet been awarded the "V. C." Everything passed off quietly and most satisfactorily, and the greatest praise is due to the executive. The names of the winners of the various events are given below:—

TUG-OF-WAR.

"H" Company v. *"F" Company*—
"F" Company won.
"G" Company v. *Scratch Team*—
"G" Company won.
"F" Company v. *"G" Company.*
"F" Company won.

BAYONET v. BAYONET.

Final—
Pte. J. Murray v. *Pte. R. McWilliam, "F" Co.*—
Pte. Murray 1st
„ McWilliam 2nd

GYMKHANA.

Place Kick—
Pte. J. Scott, "B" Company ... 1st
„ A. McCulloch, "G" „ ... 2nd

120 Yards Flat Race—
Lance-Corporal Forbes, "B" Company ... 1st
Bandsman Lillywhite, "B" „ ... 2nd
Bandsman Farley, "F" „ ... 3rd

Putting Light Shot—
Lance-Corporal J. Reid, "F" Company ... 1st
Corpl. J. Stobbie, "G" „ ... 2nd

Tossing the Caber—
Pte. H. Scott, "H" Company 1st
„ A. McKellar, "H" „ 2nd

Mile Race—
Private A. Elliott, "F" Company 1st
„ J. Kerr, "F" „ 2nd
„ J. Goff, "F" „ 3rd

High Jump—
Lance-Corporal Hansen, "A" Company ... 1st
Pte. D. C. Macgregor, "B" „ ... 2nd

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM "LONDON GAZETTE."

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland) Highlanders—General Sir J. A. Ewart, K.C.B., from the Gordon Highlanders to Colonel. Dated 6th August 1895.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Sergeant-Major.—Color-Sergeant J. Wight, "G" Company.

To be Lance-Corporal.—No. 2768, Drummer W. McRae, "E" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 3764, Private J. Adcock, "B" Company.

To be Drummer.—No. 5340, Boy M. Fogg, "E" Company.

EMPLOYMENT.

To be School Assistant.—No. 3317, Private Choularton, "G" Company.

To be Hospital Orderlies.—No. 2828, Private G. Hill, and No. 4581, Private J. Scott, "F" Company.

To be Garrison Provosts.—No. 3303, Private Addis, and No. 3211, Private Adkins, "H" Company.

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

The following has been permitted to complete 12 years with the colours:—

No. 3004, Lance-Corporal R. Spittal, "D" Company.

The following has been permitted to re-engage to complete 21 years:—

No. 1114, Corporal A. Brown, "B" Company.
" 1356, Private J. Brown, "D" "

TRANSFERS.

No. 1114, Corporal A. Brown, and No. 1356, Private J. Brown, to the 2nd Wiltshire Regiment.

No. 3832, Private G. D. Smith, "A" Company, to the 4th Dragoon Guards.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following has passed the examination for promotion to Sergeant:—

No. 3407, Corporal H. Clare, "D" Company.

The following have passed for promotion to Corporal:—

No. 3967,	Lance-Corporal	J. Duncan,	"A" Company.
" 2872	"	W. McLachlan,	"C" "
" 3246	"	J. Stewart,	"C" "
" 3628	"	F. Poole,	"D" "
" 3389	"	F. Potter,	"D" "

The following have been granted certificates for proficiency in musketry:—

No. 4304,	Lance-Corporal	A. Hansen,	"A"	Company.
" 4526	" "	W. Watt,	"A"	"
" 1588	" "	H. McPake,	"F"	"
" 3153	" "	H. Brodie,	"F"	"
" 959	" "	J. Reid,	"F"	"
" 3787	" "	J. Stevens	"F"	"
" 4653	" "	S. Fearn,	"F"	"
" 3147	" "	G. Franks,	"G"	"
" 3277	" "	F. Franklin,	"G"	"
" 3662	" "	T. Harvey,	"G"	"
" 3220	" "	J. Peters,	"H"	"
" 3650	" "	G. Haskell,	"H"	"

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

The following has passed Part I for 1st class certificate of Education:—

No. 3151, Sergeant C. Stubbs, "H" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following have been granted 2*d.* per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 3223, Pte. R. Copeland. | No. 3283, Pte. E. Greenwood.
" 3288 " W. Falconer. | " 3304 " J. Todd.

"B" Company.

No. 3247, Lce.-Corpl. J. McKimm.

"C" Company.

No. 3190, Pte. T. Sturgess.

"D" Company.

No. 4885, Pte. J. Develin. | No. 3250, Pte. H. Hooper.
" 3173 " A. Pake. | " 3294, " J. Gordon.

No. 3195, Pte. A. Dunning.

"F" Company.

No. 3187, Lce.-Corporal F. Baldwin.

"G" Company.

No. 3277, Lce.-Corpl. J. Franklin. | No. 3280, Pte. R. Rushman.
" 3276, Pte. J. Ward. | " 3256 " F. Barr.

No. 3257, Pte. W. Pannell.

"H" Company.

No. 3220, Lce.-Corpl. J. Peters. | No. 3303, Pte. C. Addis.
" 3262, Pte. G. Fairman. | " 3208 " S. Stroud.

The following have been granted 1*d.* per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 4428, Pte. J. Adams.

"E" Company.

No. 4066, Pte. J. Colville. | No. 4417, Pte. J. Brown.

"H" Company.

No. 4838, Pte. J. Halford.

The following have been restored 1*d.* per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 3976, Pte. R. Dick.

"B" Company.

No. 4085, Pte. J. McCluskey. | No. 4223, Pte. J. Hutton.

No. 2991, Pte. R. Logie.

"C" Company.

No. 3469, Pte. A. Hamilton. | No. 4044, Pte. A. McDougal.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

"D" Company.

		£	s.	d.
No. 3139,	Pte. W. Gordon	0	15	0
" 3340	" T. Booth	0	12	0
" 2873	" D. Gillon	0	9	0
" 2814	" J. Chapman	0	6	0
" 3197	" J. Bass	0	5	6
" 4373	" J. McFarlane	0	5	6

Commander of Best Shooting Section.

" 2528,	Sergeant J. Blair	0	6	7½

Commander of Second Best Section.

" 713,	Color-Sergeant McDonald	0	3	3¾

"F" Company.

No. 3282,	Pte. A. Adams	0	17	0
" 3798	" P. Halleron	0	17	0
" 2904,	Lance-Sergeant J. Stewart	0	10	0
" 3551,	Corpl. H. Kerr	0	10	0
" 1588,	Lce.-Corpl. H. McPake	0	7	0
" 959	" " J. Reid	0	6	0

Commander of Best Shooting Section.

" 1280,	Color-Sergeant R. Lundie	0	8	4½

Commander of Second Best Section.

" 1085,	Sergeant T. Chaplin	0	4	2¼

CASUALS.

No. 2782,	Lce.-Corpl. R. Crichton, "B" Company ...	0	16	0
" 4395	" " A. Hunter, "H" Company ...	0	13	0
" 2887,	Pte. H. Smith, "D" Company	0	10	0
" 4682	" A. Gray, "H" Company	0	7	0
" 3666	" C. Sheppard, "C" Company	0	4	0
" 3146,	Corpl. W. Clarke, "H" Company	0	4	0
" 4621,	Pte. J. Fleming, "B" Company	0	3	0
" 4170	" J. Youles, "H" Company	0	3	0

Commander of Best Shooting Section.

" 3151,	Sergt. C. Stubbs, "H" Company	0	7	6

Commander of Second Best Section.

" 3261,	Corporal E. Rose, "H" Company	0	3	9

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Right Wing Notes at Mian Mir.

THERE is quite a large amount of news for the month of August, and the usual complaint of nothing to chronicle falls rather flat with this edition. During the early part of the month Colonel Fetherstonhaugh paid the wing a visit, being on inspection duty, and stayed for three or four days. The weather during his visit was not all sunshine and—heat apoplexy, but the few heavy storms helped to cool the temperature and lay the dust, and the weather for Mian Mir was quite pleasant. The Commanding Officer seemed to be well pleased with his visit, and remarked the general healthy appearance of the wing. He also visited "D" Company detachment at Fort Lahore, and returned to Dalhousie on the evening of the 8th ultimo.

To show the invigorating effects of the climate here, "A" Company have been indulging in inter-half company sports. The first fixture was a cricket match, which resulted in a win for the right-half by 50 runs, but the left-half were amply avenged in the tug-of-war, which resulted in their victory. The football contest, which was also arranged, has not yet been decided, and so the atheletic supermacy of the rival halves still remains undecided.

The reserve brigades for Chitral having been de-mobilized, the rest-camp had to be opened for the accommodation of the returning regiments. Only the native corps, however, were quartered under canvas; the East Lancashire Regiment, which arrived from Nowshera, *en route* for Lucknow, being accommodated in the spare bungalows, though even in these with no punkahs swinging, the heat must have been intense. The regiment, although not very strong in numbers, appeared to be in excellent condition, looking very bronzed and healthy from constant exposure. The Sergeants were entertained in the Mess by the Sergeants of the wing. Our signallers also returned from Kalabagh in the Hazara hills during the earlier part of the month, and with the exception of one man, who was left in hospital, all seemed to be in excellent trim.

Owing to a supposed case of cholera in Anarkali bazaar, that salubrious and fashionable suburb of Lahore was placed out of bounds for a couple of weeks for the troops in garrison, but nothing occurred to cause any particular alarm, and the restriction was eventually withdrawn.

News of the very sudden death of the Sergeant-Major at Dalhousie was received with general regret on the morning after the sad occurrence. The Sergeants immediately wired their condolence to Mrs. McRae, and the news of his death was also telegraphed to his brother, Lieutenant and Quartermaster McRae of the 3rd Battalion, at Paisley.

Several men have returned from Dalhousie Convalescent depôt for duty, whilst others have been sent for change of air to fill their place; a party of a dozen men has also left for Kasauli.

We have also been treated to a couple of "gaff," both in their way fairly good. The first, known as the "London Pavilion Company," played for two nights to crowded houses, and went to the Artillery Theatre for a third and final; the next, flourishing under the title of "Mddle. Viviane Dagmar's Operatic, Comedy and Variety Combination," also had a capital reception.

The most interesting event of the month, however, was a tennis tournament between the officers and sergeants of the wing, which took place on the latter's ground on the evenings of the 21st and 23rd. Major Campbell and Lieutenants Darroch, Marshall and Campbell did battle for the officers, whilst the non-commissioned quartette consisted of Colour-Sergeant McDonald and Sergeants Maxwell, Symcox and Smith. Major

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Campbell and Lieutenant Marshall met Sergeants Maxwell and Smith, the latter winning by two sets to love, but Lieutenants Darroch and Campbell were more successful, and were victorious by two sets to one; the final between the two victorious "doubles" resulted in a win for the sergeants. Refreshments were provided on both evenings, the sergeants being host on the first occasion, whilst the officers returned the compliment on the following evening.

The following is the gazette:—

To be Rest-camp Sergeant—No. 2316, Sergeant C. Wynne, "B" Company.
To be Hospital Orderlies—No. 5776, Private H. Robertson, and No. 4816, Private W. Bracey, "B" Company.

—: o :—

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT Chitral news is now at a discount.

That the Commanding Officer seemed well pleased with his visit.

That "A" Company carried side.

That the cholera cloud seen near the guard-room was evidently scared away.

That perhaps it saw a few of the new "steps."

That a considerable enlargement of the band bungalow is contemplated.

That the Sergeants, since their late victory, rather fancy themselves.

That the ranges have been vastly improved.

That "C" Company christened them.

That Hoti Mardan quiffs the gong.

That the title "Bung Club" hardly seems to suggest strict temperance.

That "its little nipper's gone."

That a lately appointed hospital orderly gave a patient an outward application of cod-liver oil.

What its Dalhousie cousin says:—

That the "nights-in-bed" must be going high.
That it knows a man who got fourteen *in one week*.
That "H" Company are particular as to weight.
That it met "Oor Tonald."
That it got put in the cage.
That it regained its plumage in two days.
That beer-tasting is done away with.
That that has not improved the taste of the beer.
That the new water bottles are useful—very!
That it was at the Gymkhana.
That it lost its voice at the tug-of-war.
That it was nearly strangled.
That "F" heaved, and heaved again.
That "F" won.
That it found a new sprinter.
That he moves well.
That socks are very useful.
That the band has lost two of its oldest soldiers.

—: o :—

A Word for Tuesdays.

—o—

WHERE are you going, Tommy Atkins?
Oh! only across the way,
To pass an hour at the Canteen—
This morning we got our pay.
The evenings are long and lonely,
And we've nothing else to do,
And a fellow must go somewhere—
There's nothing strange or new.

Where are you going, Tommy Atkins?
Down to the "Wad-Shop" there
For a cup of tea and a two-pice bun—
For it doesn't seem so bare.
There's only that and the Canteen!
And if you go in for a drink,
You're bound to stop for another
And it generally ends in the "clink."

Now listen to me, Tommy Atkins,
And I'll give you a wrinkle or two,
And when the long evenings seem lonely
I'll tell you just what to do.
Especially Tuesday evenings,
Don't lazily, aimlessly, roam;
Sit down on your kit box, Tommy,
And write them a long letter home.

You'll miss a song at the Canteen,
And, may be, you'll miss a "drunk";
From the Wad-Shop you'll miss indigestion;
But up in your soldier bunk
You'll gain a father's blessing,
You'll win a mother's bliss,
May be a sister's pleasure,
Or a sweetheart's far-off kiss.

Think of the dear old mother,
Think of the white-haired dad,
When they read the longed-for letter,
That comes from their absent lad.
And when you have written the letter
That's to cross the briny foam,
Your heart will be truer and lighter
For the words you have written home.

"IVY" IN *The Nines*.

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A Ghost Story.

—o—

"AN Officer," says a contributor to *Quis Separabit*, "who holds a high position in India, does not believe in the supernatural, but has a great respect for ghosts.

"One night," continues the writer, "I had the good fortune to sit next him at dinner. The conversation chanced to turn upon the case of a Tommy Atkins who had been court-martialled for sleeping at his post whilst on guard, but whose company commander urged, in extenuation, that the man was completely wearied from acting as a volunteer hospital-assistant during a severe outbreak of cholera. 'Here in barracks the excuse might hold good,' said the General. 'On service, he should be shot after five minutes' notice.' He uttered the latter words so seriously that I looked up with some curiosity. 'Yes,' he continued, in a lower tone, 'I was once nearly executed myself for the same offence. A good many years ago, when I was a young sub, we were after a rebellious section of the Hassanzais, led by a cashiered subadar, who deserted from his regiment through sheer pride. Our men were dead beat after a long march, so I volunteered to do sentry-go on the crest of a hill commanding our position until relieved at dawn. I went on at eleven, and was visited by the rounds at twelve, one, or two. When they left me on the last occasion, I placed my rifle with fixed bayonet against the trunk of a tree which had been struck by lightning, sat down upon the torn-off branch, and straightway fell fast asleep.'

'How long the physical overcame the mental I don't know. When, in an agony of shame, I sprang to my feet, I could see, right in front—for a bright moon lit up the landscape very distinctly—a confused mob of Ghazis. As I gazed, they melted away from my sight. My first thought was that they had surprised the camp and murdered every soul. So I reached over for my rifle, with the deliberate intention of blowing my head into small pieces, when a voice sounded close behind, "You were so keen looking to the front, old chap, that you didn't hear us coming up. Another hour, and you can get a wink of sleep." It was the officer of the watch with visiting rounds, so all was safe!

'We took the village, and managed to secure ex-subadar Ram Singh alive. Whilst we were rigging up a gallows from our strongest tent-poles, he cursed the tribesmen, and made a short speech. "Had these harem-born ones," he said, "the hearts of even the dogs who were their fathers, you would not have been here, sahibs, to do this thing. When the moon climbed over the Barakoh last night, and you were all laid in the sleep of tired men, I led these illegitimates against you. But on the top of the hill which hid your camp they saw the ghost of Nundoo, the headman of the village, whom I stabbed to death yesterday because his son was guiding you hither. As he died, he swore to be revenged, and now his ghost, armed with gun and bayonet, stopped our path. Yet, had not the lives of these dogs run cold, the spirit and you, sahibs, would have been vanquished. I have spoken." Afterwards, I walked up to the scene of the previous night's vigil. The bark of the tree, against which my rifle rested, had been stripped down by the electric fluid, also tearing off the huge limb which provided me with a seat. An odd resemblance to a human figure clothed in white was thus created. The moonlight shining full upon this, with the added effect of the rifle with fixed bayonet, was quite enough for the superstitious Hassanzais. So you see it was a close thing whether I or Ram Singh should then be attracting the kites and jackals. I naturally hold very strong views upon the punishment for such a crime as sleeping whilst on guard.'"

———:o:———

From Commanding Officer to Private in half-an-hour.

—o—

COMMANDING Officer to Captain A.: "Look here Captain A., I pointed out to you a fortnight ago that the grass outside your rooms wanted picking, and now I find that nothing has been done to remove it." (Goes on to next company, furious).—Captain A. to Lieutenant B.: "I told you about that grass, Mr. B.; I wish you would pay more attention to your regimental duties." (Walks off to the mess, biting his moustache).—Lieutenant B. to colour-sergeant: "Confound it, colour-sergeant, this grass hasn't been picked yet. Why the devil don't you see after things when I tell you?" (Saunters leisurely to his quarters, looking very black).—Colour-Sergeant to Sergeant C.: "Wer'n't you orderly-sergeant last Saturday week? Well, didn't I tell you to warn a corporal and four men for grass picking? Ugh—you are not fit to be a sergeant." (Seeks comfort in Sergeants' mess).—Sergeant C. to Corporal D.: "What about that grass picking fatigue I warned you for last Saturday week? The sooner you give those stripes up and take on company cook the better for everybody." (Swears audibly as bugler sounds "orderly-sergeants," and rushes off).——Corporal D. to Privates E., F., G. and H.: "Why the—— what the——, when the——, who the——, didn't you chaps pick that grass? Some of you fat-headed monkeys want looking after like a lunatic. All be for orderly room on Monday." (Goes to his room and kicks a mop from one end to the other.)—What Privates E., F., G. and H.'s remarks were cannot be recorded here.

—*The Aldershot News.*

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The Sutherland Volunteers at Invergordon.

(From John O'Groat Journal.)

THE Highland Brigade Camp at Invergordon has now broken up, and it will probably be looked back on as the best week of training the Northern Rifle Volunteers have as yet gone through. The appearance made by the whole Brigade was most satisfactory. The 1st Sutherland, which also includes Caithness, in particular acquitted themselves well. They turned out in very large numbers, and throughout the entire time of the camp left nothing to be desired in their conduct on or off parade. Their splendid pipe band, which numbered about 60, fully sustained their previous reputation, and were looked up to by the whole Brigade as a most striking feature of the camp .Some rain fell almost every day, and two thunderstorms were also experienced, but, on the whole, the weather was favourable. Each day the battalions were on parade at drill separately, and Brigadier-General Cluny Macpherson of Cluny, late Colonel of the Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders, Commander of the Brigade, had all the five battalions on several occasions united for brigade movements, when all acquitted themselves remarkably well. On Sunday morning the Brigade was drawn up in mass of quarter column for church parade, and marched in battalions to different parts of the field, where their respective chaplains were to preach. Rev. D. Grant, Dornoch, preached to the 1st Sutherland, and Rev. N. Macleod, D.D., Inverness, to the Camerons and Bearer Company, which service was also attended by Brigadier-General Cluny Macpherson. The bands led the singing at all the services, which, in the open air, had a most striking effect. On Monday the Brigade mustered at 6 A. M. and got through a large amount of work during the day. Tuesday was the most important day in the whole week. The review of the Brigade by Lieutenant-General Rowlands, which was witnessed by thousands of spectators, took place that forenoon. Special trains arrived early in the morning bringing some volunteers and very large numbers of spectators to the camp. As the regiments took up their position on the field the scene was very beautiful and picturesque. The Sutherland Highlanders had the largest number on parade, their total strength being close on 900 men, and from the fine physique and soldier-like bearing of the men they won universal admiration from the spectators.

When General Rowlands rode on to the ground he was received with the general salute. He then rode round and inspected the different battalions. The combined brass and pipe bands of the Brigade meanwhile were drawn up in rear and played selections of lively airs. The march past in column was at once gone through. The appearance made by all the companies was indeed magnificent, and the marching of the men was characterized by great steadiness. The whole Brigade did this part of the work very well, and as the 1st Sutherland were passing the saluting base they elicited much admiration. The Brigade was then marched back in column at the shoulder, and after some other movements was dismissed. The numbers on parade, including those on duty in camp, were :—15 field officers, 34 captains, 48 subalterns, 21 staff officers. 48 staff sergeants, 199 sergeants, 229 bands and buglers, 2,647 rank and file, 58 bearer company, and 58 cyclists. Grand total, 3,327.

Immediately at the close of the review the 1st V. B. Cameron Highlanders were inspected by Colonel Gordon. The 1st Sutherland remained on the parade-ground until the inspection of the Camerons was completed, when they were inspected by Colonel Gordon. Colonel Menzies was in command, and a fine exhibition was made. Major Mackintosh, Dornoch, put the men through the manual and firing exercise, and Major Morrison exercised them in the bayonet exercise, the movements being executed with smartness and precision. Some of the companies were afterwards brought to the front and drilled by their officers, which part of the inspection was also most satisfactorily executed. Colonel Gordon then presented long service-medals to a number of the men who had previously been returned as qualified for this new distinction.

Colonel Menzies then addressed the men. He was very pleased to see such a large attendance present at camp, and the splendid manner they all performed their duties. General Rowlands and Colonel Gordon had both expressed to him their appreciation of the way in which everything had been done, and the great pleasure it gave them to find the battalion in such a highly efficient state. He himself hoped that they would go on increasing, and that they would all meet at another camp. After being photographed the battalion marched back to their tents and dismissed.

The following is the detailed parade state of each company in the battalion, and includes both the men who were present at the inspection and on duty in camp.

Company.	Officers.	Sergts.	Band & Pipers.	Bearer Coy.	Cyc. lists.	Rank & File.	Tl.
A Golspie	3	7	9	7	0	49	75
B Dornoch	0	8	4	0	0	75	87
C Clyne	1	3	4	0	0	81	89
D Rogart	2	6	7	0	0	63	78
E Bonar	2	6	5	0	0	80	93
F Lairg	2	5	7	0	0	70	84
G Thurso	2	6	5	0	3	62	78
H Wick	1	5	6	1	5	52	70
I Halkirk	3	5	3	0	3	75	89
K Watten	1	6	4	0	0	58	69
L Wick	1	6	6	3	3	45	64
	18	63	60	11	14	710	876
			Field and Staff Officers				8
						Total	884

The officers present were—*Field and Staff Officers*—Lieutenant-Colonel Menzies, in command ; Major J. Mackintosh, Dornoch, and Major J. Morrison, Golspie ; Captain G. C. Feilden, Adjutant ; Surgeon-Lieutenants Simpson, Golspie, and Elliot, Wick ; Rev. D. Grant, Dornoch, acting Chaplain, and Quartermaster James Morrison, Golspie. *Golspie*—Captain A. N. Macaulay, Lieut. Grant and Enkyn. *Clyne*—Lieutenant Dudgeon. *Rogart*—Captain Mackay and Lieutenant Milligan. *Bonar*—Captain and Hon. Major Mackenzie, and Lieutenant Harper. *Lairg*—Captain Campbell and Lieutenant Butters. *Thurso*—Captain and Hon. Major Hamilton and Lieutenant Logan. *Wick* (L)—Captain and Hon. Major E. G. Buik, (H)—Lieutenant D. C. Cormack. *Halkirk*—Captain Dick, Lieutenants Mackay and Sinclair. *Watten*—Captain J. J. C. Davidson.

DEGREES OF COMPARISON.—Many years ago (this is not an Arabian Nights Entertainment) there flourished in "A" Company of ours three privates with the patronymic of Kelley, who, to distinguish them were respectively known as "Kelley with a badge," "Kelley without a badge," and "Kelley who would never have a badge."

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"Never heed the flees."

—o—

"DURING the summer in Canada, mosquitoes were a great source of worry to the men, for they bit their naked limbs terribly, and officers (who in those days did not wear the kilt as constantly as the men did) suffered greatly, and were often unsteady in the ranks, in consequence of the attacks of these little pests. On the occasion of a field day, the Ensign who carried the regimental colour (he was a new arrival), and who was more than ordinarily sensitive to the bite of the enemy, kept stamping his feet to drive them off, but was at last obliged to stoop down and use his hand, when the Colour-Sergeant, shocked at an officer being so unsteady in the ranks, said rather testily to him, "Hand the colour straight, sir, and never heed the flees; if ye driv' a squad o' them awa', there's anither set o' hungry deevils ready to be at ye."

In Memoriam.

—o—

SERGEANT-MAJOR JOHN McRAE.

So the Angel of Death hath appeared once again,
E're the light of the morning arose.
Renewing his purpose, with might and with main,
Giving more of his terrible blows.
E'en visiting one whom we all knew so well,
And catting him off from our ranks,
Never stopping to hear what he'd say, or will tell
To those whom he wished to give thanks.

May his soul be at rest in that bright land above.
At rest from a world full of care,
Joyfully praising the God of his love,
Oh! what joy in the "land over there";
Rest and peace he receives in that beautiful land.

Jehovah at last! oh what joy and what peace,
Oh! what rapture at last on that brightness to gaze,
He has left us alas! his troubles now cease,
Never to tire in the great song of praise.

May his loving wife ever treasure his name,
Carefully guarding his offsprings from ill,
Remembering how deep was his love for the same,
And bearing in mind that in future they will
E'er many years meet on that beautiful hill.

Dalhousie, 1895. R. McGARVIE,
"*E*" *Company.*

The Badge of Scotland.

—o—

PIPE-MAJOR John MacKay, Paisley, late Ninety-third Highlanders, is answerable for the musical accompaniments of this song, written by the aged Gaelic bard, Evan McColl. We reproduce it from the *Celtic Monthly*, which is the authority for stating it to be an excellent bagpipe march. The song itself, translated from the Gaelic, needs no recommendation.

O, the thistle o' Scotland was famous of auld,
Wi' its toorie sae snod and its bristles sae bauld;
'Tis the badge o' my country—it's aye dear to me—
And thocht o' them baith brings the licht to my e'e.
Its strength and its beauty the storm never harms;
It stan's on its guard like a warrior in arms;
Yet its down is as soft as the gull's on the sea,
And its tassel as bright as my Jeanie's blue e'e.
O, my country, what wonder yer fame's gane afar,
For yer sons ha'e been great baith in peace and in war.
While the sang and the tale live, they aye win respect,
The lads 'neath the bonnets wi' thistles bedeckt.
Langsyne the invaders came oure to our shore,
And fiercely our thistle they scutched and they tore;
When they maist thocht it deid, 'twas then it up bore,
And it bloomed on their graves quite as strong as before.
My blessing be yours! Is there Scotsman ava,
Wad stau' bye and see ony harm to ye fa'?
Is there gentle or simple wha lives in our land,
Wad refuse to drink health to the thistle so grand?

A VALUABLE IDOL.—After the Indian Mutiny, a soldier, who had served in a Highland Regiment, brought home a hideous looking painted wooden figure which he had taken from the loin cloth of an Indian fanatic who had attempted his life.

He gave it to his sister's little girl, for a doll, to play with, and it was known as "Nana Sahib."

Years after the girl's mother took an axe to break it up for fire-wood, when, what seemed to be the eyes—a clayey substance—fell out, revealing two red beads.

The "beads" proved to be two rubies, for which she got £15.

And not only that, but there was a hollow space in the doll (or idol?) which was packed full of gold mohurs. Altogether "Nana Sahib" realized over £80 sterling.

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Temperance Notes.

—o—

THE Sessions of the "Pride of Sutherland" Branch Lodge, I. O. G. T., continue to be of the most pleasant and instructive nature, and during the month the Lodge has added several new names to its membership roll.

At the meeting of the A. T. A. Head-quarter Branch, held in the school-room on the 12th ultimo, the Association Medal was voted for, and Friends R. Crawford and Choularton were returned at the head of the poll.

* * * * * * *

"Excelsior" Tent No. 190 I. O. R., is still moving "onward and upward," and every night during the month additions are made to its ranks. On the evening of the 22nd ultimo, almost all the members of "Mountain Spring" and "Pride of Sutherland" (Branch) Lodges of I. O. G. T. paid them a visit, and a right jovial evening was spent.

INSTITUTION OF A NEW RECHABITE TENT AT MIAN MIR.

On Saturday, 24th August, a new Tent of the Independent Order of Rechabites was instituted at the Royal Artillery Theatre. Invitations were issued to all Brethren in the station to assist in the ceremony, and the members of "Excelsior" Tent were well represented. Bro. Irwin, I. T., was instituting officer, being assisted by Bros. Archer, D. D. R., Dobson, P. D. C. R., Morton, D. Secretary. Dick, D. G., Marklow, D. L., and Whyborn, D. Steward. Several candidates were initiated in the Order, and after due form the Tent, under the name of "Unity and Peace," was declared instituted by the District Trustee.

After an interval for refreshment, during which time a "C" Company Brother greatly distinguished himself, business was again resumed, and the election of officers for the newly elected Tent and their installation took place.

BIRTH.

BATES.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 25th ultimo, the wife of Color-Sergeant Bates of a daughter, Dorothy.

DEATHS.

BLACKBURN.—At his residence, Lansdowne Crescent, Glasgow, on the 8th ultimo, Captain A. B. Blackburn, Adjutant, 5th Volunteer Battalion, Highland Light Infantry (Glasgow Highlanders), aged 37.

ALLCOCK.—At the Station Hospital, Dalhousie, on the 11th ultimo, No. 4125, Private H. E. Allcock, "A" Company, of enteric fever.

MCRAE.—At the Station Hospital, Dalhousie, on the 14th ultimo, Sergeant-Major John McRae, of consumption.

MCINTYRE.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 28th ultimo, No. 4255, Private R. McIntyre, "C" Company, of heat apoplexy.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line*—

With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union, non-commissioned officers and men of the Regiment.	Rs. 2 per annum.
Officers and others not connected with the Regiment.	Rs. 3 per annum.

NOTA BENE.

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *The Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly, in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

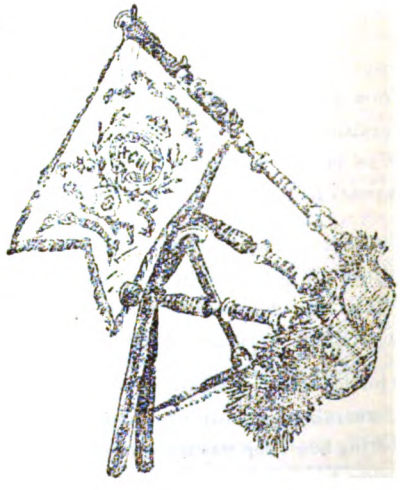
The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money-orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WE beg to ackowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions from the following :—

2nd-Lieutenant J. Campbell (3 subscriptions).
John Mackay, Esq., C. E., J. P., Hereford.
Colonel Sir Charles Leslie, 2-4th Gurkha Rifles.
Corporal Johnstone, "B" Company.
Private Wright, "B" Company.
Private Newall, "B" Company (half yearly).



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"The Thin Red Line,"

THE REGIMENTAL PAPER

OF THE

2nd Bn. Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

PRESS OPINIONS.

"A particularly bright and cheery little paper."—*The Soldier.*

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"The brave old 93rd has much reason to be proud of it."—*Rothesay Express.*

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"A bright little Journal."—*Scottish Sport.*

Illustrated from original pen-and-ink sketches, wash drawings, photo-zincotypes, &c.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We acknowledge, with many thanks, the receipt of the following:—

"The Soldier."
"The Thistle" (1st Royal Scots).
"The Dragon" (3rd Buffs).
"The St. George's Gazette" (5th Fusiliers).
"The 2nd Suffolk Gazette" (12th Suffolk Regiment).
"The Light Bob Gazette" (13th P. A. Somerset L. I).
"Ours" (19th Yorkshire Regiment).
"The Borderers Chronicle" (25th King's Own Scottish Borderers).
"The Sprig of Shillelagh" (27th Inniskillings).
"One and All" (32nd Duke of Cornwall's L. I.).
"The Men of Harlech" (Welsh Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regt.).
"The 5 and 9 Lillywhites Gazette" (59th East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (65th York and Lancaster Regiment).
"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
"I'm Ninety-five" (95th Derbyshire Regiment).
"The Nines" (99th Wiltshire Regiment).
"The Maple Leaf" (100th Leinster Regiment).
"The Bengal Tiger" (104th Munster Fusiliers).
"The Globe and Laurel" (Royal Marines).
"Army Service Corps Journal."
"The Aldershot News."
"The Rothesay Express."
"The Man of the World."
"The Stirling Observer."
"John O'Groat Journal."
"The Seventh Regiment Gazette" (7th N. Y. N. G.).
"The Celtic Monthly."

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 10.—Vol. II. DALHOUSIE,—OCTOBER 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

ORDERS have been issued to the effect that the head-quarter wing leaves Dalhousie in two parties, on the 5th and 6th November, and may be expected to reach Mian Mir on or about the 11th and 12th. The depôt here, however, does not break up until the end of November, and so it will be December before the battalion is again all together.

* * * * * *

The date of our departure for Nowshera has been also at last definitely fixed, and we leave Mian Mir on the 16th January, and are due at our destination on the 17th of the following month. The Somerset Light Infantry, who relieve us, are to arrive on the 3rd December, so we may look forward to spending at least six weeks under canvas at the rest-camp previous to our departure: for no doubt on their arrival the Somersets will take over the barracks, and, what is of more importance, the garrison duties also.

* * * * *

No definite word has yet been received as to when we may expect the next draft from the home battalion, but it is to be hoped that they may arrive before we leave Mian Mir; and then with their addition, and the few men we may expect to leave in hospital, providing the present healthy state of things at Mian Mir continues, we should make as an imposing array as when the battalion marched in from Umballa, two years ago, looking as perhaps they seldom looked before.

* * * * * *

The influx of young blood, whenever it comes, may be expected to be of the right sort, for week by week the *Aldershot News* brings us accounts of our first battalion's doings at the New Forest manœuvres; and the following cutting from that paper is only one of the many gratifying paragraphs that continually appear:—

The General Officer Commanding has conveyed to Lieutenant-Colonel Hannay, of the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, his satisfaction with the battaliou on

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the line of march, and the remarks of his Royal Highness were conveyed to the men in the following battalion order:—"The Commanding Officer wishes to convey to all ranks that His Royal Highness the General Officer Commanding informed him that the battalion took first place amongst the twenty battalions composing the force assembled in the New Forest, as regards its marching qualities, no man having fallen out during the march from Alton to Godshill."

* * * * * *

From the notes of "FORAGE CAP" (from whom we have also received a Balaklava song and letter, which are published on another page) in the *Glasgow Evening News*, we publish the following sympathetic reference to the death of our late Sergeant-Major, and also the news of an old set of regimental colours, our first, which have found their last resting-place in the Cathedral of St. Mungo:—

We announced last week the death of Sergeant-Major McRae, Ninety-Third Highlanders, who died at Mian Mir, India. Deceased was brother to Lieutenant McRae, of the Depôt, Paisley, was aged 36 years, had been Sergeant-Major nearly nine years, and had over 18 years' service. "FORAGE CAP" does not forget that he saw Sergeant McRae in 1890 at Aldershot, when our lamented comrade, together with his brother sergeants, gave a number of Glasgow comrades a hearty and homely welcome to the sergeants' mess of the old Ninety-Third. The deceased Sergeant-Major succeeded his own brother, Lieutenant McRae, as Sergeant-Major of the Ninety-Third, and the popularity of Lieutenant McRae, while holding that post with the regiment in Glasgow, will be remembered by many Volunteers who are now, perhaps, growing grey in the service. Details of the circumstances which led to the demise of Sergeant-Major McRae will doubtless appear in the next number of the *Thin Red Line*; but we sympathise very readily with his people, for it is always a grief to see a good soldier cut off when he is just in the prime of life.

Speaking of the Ninety-Third Highlanders reminds me that the old colours of the regiment are now neatly and artistically secured in the Glasgow Cathedral. Colour-Sergeant Simpson, who saw service both in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny, together with Sergeant Diverty, another old non-com. of the Ninety-Third, saw the work accomplished, so that the veterans who fought with the colours, and who were naturally jealous of their care, may now look upon them, if that were possible, with increased pride. The story is a short one, for Colour-Sergeant Simpson and Sergeant Diverty had no sooner brought the matter before Lieutenant McRae of Paisley, than action was at once taken, and the colours properly encased and preserved. I understand that Colonel Nightingale, Colonel Fetherstonhaugh commanding, Major Napier, and officers, past and present, of the Ninety-Third have undertaken to bear the expense connected with the better care of the colours; and this, I may say, is just like them. As already indicated in the *News*, Wylie & Lochhead have done the work, and Mr. King, who carried it out, has been assured of the pleasure and satisfaction which now obtain amongst all concerned.

* * * * * *

The pipers are up to date as usual, and the classic strains of "Her golden hair was hanging down her back" is now wafted on the breeze from the drones of the mighty warpipe.

* * * * * *

"E" Company stand an excellent chance this year of carrying off the "Shield," for with eighty-three men exercised they have the capital average of 138·00 for individual practices. This, for the Dalhousie ranges, is decidedly good.

* * * * * *

Now that the merry mosquito is very much *en evidence*, it may interest sufferers to know that it is only the female of the species that bites. The difficulty is to discrimate between the sexes until after a close acquaintance.

* * * * * *

The wing of the Border Regiment at Mankoto held their third series of sports on the depôt parade-ground on Saturday, the 21st September. In the 220 yards flat race, which was an open event, Corporal Forbes and Private Singleton, both of "B" Company of ours, ran second and third, respectively. Our band and pipers played selections during the afternoon, and were much appreciated.

* * * * * *

A Sergeants' shooting match is on the *tapis* between teams representing Mid-Lothian and Fife. The match is restricted to three aside.

* * * * * *

Sergeant-Major J. Mackay and Colour-Sergeants D. McArthur and R. Tait, of our fourth battalion permanent staff at Paisley, and Colour-Sergeant J. Campbell, of the seventh volunteer battalion, have been granted medals for long service and good conduct.

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The Commanding Officer paid another visit to Mian Mir on the 21st September, on duty as a member of a board to inspect the rolling-stock of the North-Western Railway; he afterwards journeyed privately to Nowshera.

* * * * *

We have heard on very good authority that it is not unlikely the battalion may next year spend the summer in the hills above the Swat Valley, our latest territoral acquisition beyond the frontier.

Healthy convalescent stations for the Peshawar troops have long been desired, and the late campaign has evidently opened a new range of health-giving resorts: first class roads are being constructed over the Malakand Pass, and the merry jingle of a tonga may perhaps soon be heard even in Chitral itself.

* * * * * *

Colonel Percy Groves, late of the 27th Inniskillings, a well-known writer, has written a history of the Ninety-Third Sutherland Highlanders, which is published by Messrs. W. & K. Johnston, Edinburgh.

* * * * * *

A sum of Rs. 30,592 in the Regimental Savings' Bank to the credit of some two hundred and ten depositors is not a bad amount. This gives each an average of Rs. 145, and some of the old canny hands who, commencing banking immediately Karachi was sighted, will have a pretty considerable sum to increase the "deferred" at the end of their "seven." No need to doubt the nationality of the battalion after this.

* * * * * *

There was a field day here on the 27th ultimo, in the vecinity of Kala Tope, all the troops in garrison taking part.

* * * * * *

To accustom men to hill warfare, Major-General Sir G. B. Wolseley, K.C.B., Commanding the District, is giving a prize to the best squad at *khud* climbing; the prize to consist of a silver cup and forty rupees. Teams are to consist of one officer and twenty men fully accoutred, and carrying forty rounds of ammunition and the race which is to be a time one, is to be from Katlagh to Mankote, on arrival at which place three volleys are to be fired. The General himself, assisted by two officers, will act as umpire, and we hope to see the prize come to Ticca.

* * * * * *

A memorial-stone is to be erected to the late Field-Marshal Sir Patrick Grant, G.C.B., G.C.M.G. Officers desirous of subscribing are requested to forward their subscriptions to Messrs. Cox & Co., or to the Secretary and Treasurer, Major-General C. W. Robinson, C.B., Chelsea Hospital.

* * * * *

Lance-Corporal J. Reid "F" Company, threw the hammer with turn 109 feet whilst at practice on the Dalhousie Depôt parade ground the other day. This is sixteen feet more than the winning throw at the Highland Brigade Sports at Mian Mir last winter and is not bad for a beginner. Corporal Reid should practice with the hammer.

* * * * * *

In giving the names of those entitled to signalling prizes in last month's paper, we omitted Corporal Olden, "H" Company, Privates Hamilton, "E" Company, and Henderson, "G" Company.

TYPES OF THE INDIAN ARMY
No. 8—Mysore Foot.

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Forty Years After.*

—o—

"POSA PIANO; OR, WHAT'S IN A NAME": A REMINISCENCE OF THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF BALAKLAVA.

(*From the "Statesman."*)

ON this the fortieth anniversary of the ever famous Battle of Balaklava, I look back with much pleasure to the first one, on the 25th October 1855, when the old Ninety-Third were encamped at Kamara, and a fairly well-supplied bazaar, consisting mostly of Italian and Greek settlers, had been formed at Kadeköi, in which a case of drinkable Italian or Greek wine could be purchased for about four times the cost of the same at the port of shipment. However, shortly before the date of which I write, the extra field pay had come out, and money was more plentiful in the camp than good cheer. By that time the Ninety-Third Highlanders had awoke to the fact that their steady front on the memorable 25th October 1854 had made them famous as "Sir Colin Campbell's thin red line tipped with steel"; and it had been unanimously decreed by all ranks, from "Old Slope," the name by which the Colonel was known, down to drummer Ross, the youngest boy in the regiment, that henceforth the 25th October should be a red letter day in the regiment. The officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates had all determined to celebrate the first anniversary of the famous day with all the good cheer procurable, and every man in my tent—we had not then got into the more comfortable wooden huts sent out for the second winter in the Crimea, although they were then under erection—the troops were still under canvas—and every man of the twelve in the tent subscribed ten shillings for the first anniversary of the famous day, and a deputation of those not for duty was selected to proceed to the bazaar at Kadeköi to lay out the money on the best liquor and provisions procurable. Jock White, whose mother kept an eating-house in the Auld Town of Edinburgh, and who was himself a famous cook, was duly elected foreman of this jury of taste. After an absence of about two hours the deputation returned to camp with a case of wine, a small pickled ham, a plum-pudding in a tin can, some fowls, several pounds of good potatoes, and a couple of 4-lb. loaves of white bread. Jock White, having duly acted as chief adviser in the purchases, and knowing that I was a connoisseur of good liquor, came to me, as I was preparing the fuel for the cooking, exclaiming: "Oh! Forbes-Mitchell, we have got a case of rare wine. We paid three pounds ten for it, and the Italian from whom we made the purchase assured us that it is the very best wine procurable in Italy; in fact, it is the only wine drunk by his Holiness the Pope and the College of Cardinals, and that he secured this special case from some sent out by King Victor Emmanuel to the Commander-in-Chief of the Sardinian army. He gave it to us as a great favour for seventy shillings, which was less than cost price; but he would disdain to take a profit from the brave Scotchmen who had stood like a wall of their native granite against the Russian Cossacks, 'and whose last King was buried at Rome.'" So Jock had paid the seventy bright new shillings for this famous case of wine. I asked him if he knew the name of it, and Jock replied: "The name is quite plain on the case: it is *Posa Piano*." (Italian for "Carry gently;" equivalent to the English direction of "Glass with Care.") Jock White and his party had taken the direction on the case for the name of the wine. However, not wishing to damp the pleasure of the festive occasion, I replied, "Oh, it is *Posa Piano*, is it? Are you sure it is genuine, for that is the name of the most famous wine produced in Italy. If the wine is genuine P. P. we will have a rare treat. That is the wine known by all the old Irish families of Catholic nobility as 'P. P.,' which stands for Parish Priest, and it is only drunk at Christmas and Easter and other high festivals." To this Jock replied: "Oh, I knew it was rare good stuff, and when you call it by P. P. I have often heard my mither talk of it when she was cook to the noble Duke of Norfolk." So, to put the genuineness of the brand beyond doubt, the case was opened, and a bottle uncorked by having the neck knocked off. The contents

* This story appeared last year, the fortieth anniversary of Balaklava.—ED.

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proved to be very fair Marsala, worth about 18 shillings per dozen in England; but as I was constituted the sole judge, I pronounced it delicious, real genuine *Posa Piano*, and Jock White felt himself about three inches taller because he had had the good luck to secure a case of real genuine *Posa Piano*—the only wine drunk by his Holiness the Pope and the College of Cardinals. Jock set about the cooking with a will, determined that since our liquor was sure, our cooking should be good; and when evening came didn't we enjoy ourselves! The pickled ham and the plum pudding turned out as good as our wine. We shared a few bottles of the *Posa Piano* with the men in the colour-sergeant's tent, who called in the sergeant-major to taste it. And that night formed an epoch, or general point of calculation, for all future events in our tent, everything happening either so long before, or so long after, the night on which we had the case of genuine *Posa Piano!*

If any of the men of that particular squad are still alive, they may to-night be relating to their grandchildren and cronies how they enjoyed getting almost fu' on real *Posa Piano* on the first anniversary of the famous Battle of Balaklava. These are fine times, my friends, to look back to over the vista of forty years. So, *pace* teetotalers—

"Come, let us drink a toast to-night,
Our glasses take in hand,
And all around the festive board
In solemn silence stand.

Before we part, let each true heart
Drink once to those no more,
Who fought their last fight on Balaklava's height
On the twenty-fifth October
Eighteen hundred and fifty-four."
And twice as many more!

WM. FORBES-MITCHELL.

They were aye true tae ane anither.

—o—

BALAKLAVA SONG.

Written by "FORAGE CAP."—*Glasgow Evening News.*

Auld Scotia's sons have ta'en the lead
On many a bloody field;
They've fought while life itself did last
Ere they would ever yield.
They've shown us how to meet the foe,—
Their fame shall not decay,—
And we'll drink tae Scotland's Ninety-Third
And Balaklava Day!
They were aye true tae ane anither—
Aye true tae ane anither—
Aye true tae ane anither;
Aye true, aye!

Sir Colin was a soldier brave,
Who long had served the Queen;
He led the way to Alma's Heights
O'er Alma's famous stream.
That was a glorious victory,
But brighter was the ray
That shone o'er Colin and his men
On Balaklava Day!
Chorus—They were aye true, &c.

There were some anxious moments
On that bleak October day;
Sir Colin he had no supports—
The Turks had ran away.
In squadrons dense the Russian horse
Came thundering o'er the plain,
But the Ninety-Third stood like a rock
And hurl'd them back again!
Chorus—They were aye true, &c.

Now let us tell the world o'er
We love the time of peace;
We hope that war will come no more
And peace and love increase;
But if auld Scotia's sons are sent
To draw the sword again,
They will emulate the gallant deeds
Of Colin and his men!
And be aye true tae ane anither, &c., &c.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

We are now at the end of August, and, therefore, within easy reach of another Balaklava anniversary. I have taken the liberty to send you this song, which has been sung at our annual gathering in the Trades' Hall here for the past four years. It has never been in print, and I shall consider it an honour did you give it a corner in the *Thin Red Line*. I trust you will get it in time, for my blood would certainly rush along with pride did I think that the young men of the Ninety-third were able to sing the chorus on 25th October in India—"Be aye true tae ane anither!"

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What a fine sermon, in brief, that is for young men in regimental life; and if it is taken into the field, as it certainly was on Balaklava Day, long ago, what an encouragement must it be to "our boys," and what a wholesome caution to the enemy! Well, I hope you are all as fit as I wish you to be, and you will be fit enough.

Speaking of your anniversary, I may tell you a short story. I was sitting in the Trades' Hall alongside two of your Crimean heroes, and they seemed to be on the best of terms. No names.* But Jock said to Jeemie—"Man, I've come awa' and left my tobakky!" "I'll gi'e ye a bit thick black," said Jeemie. "Will ye," said Jock, "I'm d—d shure you'll no! There's wan day in the year that I smoke *shay*, and that's *Balaklava Day!*"

And this aristocratic veteran forthwith rose from his seat, went out, and returned with a small packet of his "One-day-in-the-year Mixture." Jeemie was naturally a wee bit huffed, and he turned to your humble servant and said—"Did ever ye see the like o' that? The daft soul! He was aye like that! He was jist the same in the Crimea!"

By the way, while on holiday, I met two of your Crimean heroes at Dunblane. We had a drink. "Were ye at Bisley?" asked Maxwell. "Not this year," was the reply. "Hoo mony will shoot for the Queen's Prize?" "About 2,000 men." "Twa' thoosan'!" quoth the veteran. Taking his pipe from his mouth, and shaking his head, he continued—"My God! I widna like tae be skirmishing against *them!* Eh? Cover's the word, Carson! Cover! Aye, Cover!" And the veteran, with a fine light in his eye, reached over and pulled the bell. He did this little business with all the deliberation, too, of a man who fancied he was yet able to pull a trigger. Nothing I like better than to see those find old soldiers with their medals on their breasts, and I am looking forward to the 25th of October that I may then join the boys of the Thin Red Line.

* No pack drill.—Ed.

And you have got Sir John Ewart as your Colonel-in-Chief. Good business! I know you are all proud. So am I. Heard about a Ninety-Third veteran whose better half was "doon the watter," and he was left to make his own bed and to cater for himself. He went about, it seems, sighing and growling, and grumbling, and snapping at every one with all the grace and determination of an aged terrier. But a change came. He got a copy of the *Glasgow Evening News*, with word of the appointment of Sir John Ewart to the old corps, and that veteran has done nothing but snicker and laugh, and offer to stand drinks ever since. And now, my friend, "Good-bye—Good luck!"

Yours,

FORAGE CAP.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it is getting cooler.

That the temperature has been reported as low as freezing point.

That "Hogan's" is very popular.

That a certain non-commissioned officer finds a *kukri* very useful.

That it makes a good shoe-lift.

That the *al fresco* was a success.

That sitting out was absolutely necessary for some.

What its Dalhousie cousin says:—

That "H" Company flew the "paying off" pennant.

That a light railway has been constructed from Ticcu to Mankote.

That the sergeants' messes are the respective *termini*.

That the rolling-stock is of special design.

That the band had a field day to themselves.

That they made a gallant charge.

That stolen fruit is always sweet.

That "E" Company have been shooting well.

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That a certain N.-C. O. uses a microscope for official documents.

That the record high jump has been beaten.

That a sergeant accomplished the feat.

—:o:—

The Russian Army.

—o—

"THE Russian Army is full of funny things,' the *Indian World* says. Thus, the biggest fellows are detailed for duty in the Bodyguard Regiment, 'Preobrashenski,' founded by Peter the Great, and originally composed of that monarch's personal friends, all giants in their way. The Czar's family take great pride in this regiment, and on the name day of its patron saint, attends the festivities in a body, usually reinforced by foreign Ambassadors and Ministers. Then there is the Ismailowski Regiment, where only blondes are tolerated, and the well-known Pawlow Guards, all of whom must have turned up noses. The regulations of the Guard Chasseurs, on the other hand, admit only dark-haired men. The Guard officers being privileged by birth as well as rank in their chosen profession, treat their colleagues in the line almost as badly as the latter treat their Subalterns. Up to a few years ago, the distinction between them was such that a Guard Lieutenant had precedence over the Captain of the Line. The late Czar's father changed the state of things somewhat, but not much. A Major of the Guards would, even to-day, rank higher than a Line Colonel, if there was such a person. But the advancement of the regular army officer seldom surpasses the rank of Battalion Chief. Men having attained that distinction are generally made 'Commanders,' of a small precinct, while disgraced Guard officers, or general staff-officers, obtain the Colonelship or Lieutenant-Colonelship of the regiment to which they devoted their lives. Only very rarely does a Line officer succeed in obtaining a commission in the War Academy, and eventually in the general staff. It should be mentioned, however, that the majority are unfitted for such advancement. The requirements of the officers' examinations in the Line are considerably less stringent than those upon which the admission to the Guards' officers' corps are based; the aspirant's social standing is not at all considered; and to complete the wretchedness of the Line officer, his pay is ridiculously small and inadequate, especially that of the Infantry officer, the Lieutenant receiving not more than £40 per year, all told. The Captain has a little over £60, the Major £90. The most abject poverty prevails among them, and only a few of the younger officers own more than one uniform, which must do service both on and off parade. The Infantry private of the Line receives in money 15s. per year, including the Czar's and other presents."

German Idea of Highlanders.

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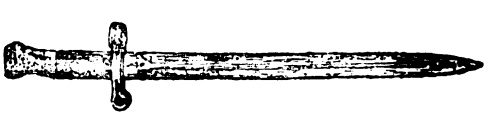
"THE Highlanders, from the distinction they had earned in the different encounters," says a historian, writing of the exploits of Keith's and Campbell's Highlanders, the old 87th and 88th Regiments, in the Low Countries, "now began to attract the especial notice of the Germans. At a time when an entire ignorance prevailed among the people of England respecting the Highlanders, it is not to be wondered at that the Germans should have formed the most extraordinary notions of these mountaineers. In common with the English, they had looked upon the Highlanders as savages; but their ignorance went farther, for the people of Germany actually believed that the Highlanders were still strangers to Christianity." "The Scotch Highlanders," says an article which appeared in the *Vienna Gazette* in 1762, "are a people totally different in their dress, manners, and temper from the other inhabitants of Britain. *They are caught in the mountains when young*, and still run with a surprising degree of swiftness. As they are strangers to fear, they make very good soldiers when disciplined. The men are of low stature, and the most of them old or very young. They discover an extraordinary submission and love for their officers, who are all young and handsome. From the goodness of their disposition in every thing—for the boors are much better treated by these savages than by the more polished French and English; from the goodness of their disposition, which, by the by, shows the rectitude of human nature before it is vitiated by example or prejudice, it is to be hoped that their King's laudable, though late, endeavours to civilize and instruct them in the principles of Christianity will meet with success!" The article adds that the "French held them at first in great contempt; but they have met with them so often of late, and seen them in the front of so many battles, that they firmly believe that there are twelve battalions of them in the army instead of two. Broglio himself has lately said that he once wished that he was a man of six feet high, but that now he is reconciled to his size since he has seen the wonders performed by the little mountaineers." An acquaintance with the Highlanders soon dissipated the illusions under which the Germans laboured.



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I'm faur awa' frae Scotland.

—o—

I'M faur awa' frae Scotland
And its scenes o' beauty rare;
Frae the guid auld toon o' Paisley
An' its lasses, young and fair.
I've left auld freens behind me
For tae cross the raging sea,
An' I'm noo a kilted sodger
In the guid auld Nine and Three.

Chorus—
But I sigh for bygane days
An' my auld civilian claes,
An' the bonny lass I loe the best o' a';
An' I long baith nicht and day
For the scenes sae bricht and gay
In my hame in dear auld Scotland,
That is noo sae for awa'.

I lo'e auld Scotland dearly;
Toe think o't brings me joy;
T'was there I spent the happy days
When I was but a boy.
T'was there I met the bonny lass
Wha stole my heart awa';
We've wandered happy, hand in hand,
Mang heather hills sae braw.
Chorus.

There wi' my jolly comrades
Hoo happy I hae been;
What jolly pranks we used tae play
Wi' lichtsome hearts at e'en.
Since then I 've roamed in many lands,
But I'll ne'er contented be
Till I'm back in Bonny Scotland
Wi' the freens sae dear to me.
Chorus.

RAB.

THE MAGAZINE RIFLE.—£1,000 was awarded to Lieutenant Colonel Holmes for his work in connection with the long range sights; £500 to Lieutenant-Colonel Lewes also for sights; £5,000 to Mr. Metford for his system of rifling, with £1,500 for his bullet.

The British Magazine Rifle Company have a royalty of 2*s.* a rifle up to 500,000 rifles (*i. e.*, £50,000), while the royalty granted to Messrs. Greenwood and Batley is 2*s.* 6*d.* per 1,000 cartridges up to 100,000,000 (*i. e.*, £2,500).

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Our Band Ball.

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(*By a Bandsman.*)

A GRAND Ball given by the combined bands of the 2nd battalion Border Regiment and ours took place in the Assembly Rooms on Wednesday, the 4th September. The hall was tastefully decorated, evergreens and tartan plaids being neatly arranged on the walls, whilst here and there stars, composed of dirks and swords, sparkled on the dark background. Dancing commenced at 9-30 P.M., under the leadership of Lance-Corporal Walsh and Bandsman Cameron, our efficient Masters of Ceremonies, and during the evening we were honoured by a visit from Major-General Sir George Wolseley, K.C.B., and Staff, besides many other officers from the station. An excellent supper was provided by the bands, and the majority present took the opportunity of partaking of the good things provided. The dancing was kept up in a spirited manner till close on four o'clock the following morning, when all wended their way homewards, well satisfied with the arrangements that had been made for their enjoyment, and congratulating themselves that it was Thursday, and a day of rest.

TOO MANY FOR THE YANKEE.—A Highlander foraging through a wood during the American War of Independence came unexpectedly in sight of an American when both their pieces happened to be unloaded. Each placed himself behind a tree for cover while loading, but fearing that the first who ventured out of cover would be brought down by the other, each kept possession of his tree, till, at the last, the Highlander pushed his bonnet on the point of his bayonet beyond the tree. The American, seeing the head-gear naturally fired, and his ball passed through its centre, when his opponent started forward and made him surrender immediately.

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PROMOTIONS.

To be Corporals.—No. 3775, Lance-Corporal G. Forbes, "B" Company, and No. 3880, Lance-Corporal J. Douglas, "G" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Band Corporal.—No. 1484, Corporal A. Watters, "C" Company.

To be Lance-Corporals.—No. 4304, Provisional Lance-Corporal Hansen, "G" Company; and No. 4630, Provisional Lance-Corporal G. Duncan, "E" Company; and No. 2768, Drummer D. McRae, "H" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 2133, Bandsman C. Farley, and No. 2458, Bandsman E. Lillywhite, "F" Company, No. 4682, Private Fitchett and No. 3686, Private Starling, "E" Company, No. 3648, Private J. Latchford, "G" Company, and No. 4295, Private Keeble, and No. 4301, Private J. Gilbert, "H Company.

To be Bandsmen.—No. 5172, Boy C. McArthur and No. 5164, Boy C. Lewington.

To be Drummer.—No. 4211, Private B. Brown, "H" Company, and No. 5340, Boy W. Fogg, "E" Company.

To be Piper.—No. 4543, Boy Finlayson, "H" Company.

To be Acting Bandsmen.—No. 4186, Private J. Shearer, and No. 4751, Private T. Atherton, "F" Company.

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

The following have been taken on the paid establishment of their rank:—

No. 4628, Lance-Corporal G. Ballantyne, No. 2768 Lance-Corporal McRae, and No. 4630, Lance-Corporal G. Duncan, "E" Company, No. 4304, Lance-Corporal Hansen, and No. 4526, Lance-Corporal G. Watt, "G" Company.

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

Re-engaged to complete 21 years.—No. 4358, Sergeant-Master Tailor A. Blacklock, No. 2045, Sergeant F. Meston, and No. 1484, Corporal A. Watters.

To complete 12 years.—No. 3293, Lance-Corporal H. Williams, "B" Company, and No. 4211, Private B. Brown, "H" Company.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following have passed for the rank of Corporal:—

No. 3153, Lance-Corporal Brodie, No. 3787, Lance-Corporal Stephens, and No. 4653, Lance-Corporal Fearn, "F" Company, No. 3276, Lance-Corporal Ward, No. 4526, and Lance-Corporal Watt, "G" Company, No. 3220, Lance-Corporal Peters, and No. 3650, Lance-Corporal Haskell, "H" Company.

Granted Certificate for proficiency in Musketry.—No. 4143, Lance-Corporal Charters, "F" Company.

EMPLOYMENT.

To be Caterer in Sergeants' Mess.—Sergeant W. Weller.
To be Caterer in Corporals' Mess.—Corporal Watters.
To be employed on Garrison Police.—No. 3303, Private Addis, and No. 3211, Private Adkins, "H" Company.

To be Hospital Orderlies.—No. 2828, Private Hill, and No. 4581, Private Scott, "E" Company.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

The following have been granted second class certificates of education:—

No. 4628, Lance-Corporal Ballantyne, "E" Company, No. 959, Lance-Corporal J. Reid, "F" Company, No. 4528, Lance-Corporal G. Watt, and No. 4654, Private C. Binnie, "G" Company.

The following have been granted good conduct pay:—

At 2d. per diem.

"A" Company.

No. 3258, Pte. J. Holden. | No. 3259, Pte. A. Sullivan.
" 3221 " R. Skinner. | " 3279 " C. Fowler.
" 2805 " G. Henderson. | " 3260 " A. Royffe.
No. 3331, Pte. F. Johnstone.

"B" Company.

No. 3293, Lce.-Corpl. H. Williams. | No. 3319, Pte. E. Partridge.

"D" Company.

No. 3340, Pte. T. Booth.

"E" Company.

No. 2853, Private J. Dunsmore.

"F" Company.

No. 3282, Private Adams. | No. 3311, Pte. H. Hamblion.
" 3241, " J. Payne. | " 3255, " P. Wilson.
No. 3271, Private W. Kay.

"G" Company.

No. 3317, Pte. W. Choularton. | No. 3326, Pte. H. Beattie.

"H" Company.

No. 2171, Pte. T. Patterson. | No. 3211, Pte. A. Adkins.

At 1d. per diem.

"C" Company

No. 4771, Pte. J. Oliver.

"F" Company.

No. 4751, Pte. J. Atherton. | No. 4584, Pte. W. McLaughlin.
" 3683, " A. Blackley. | " 3988, " H. Brown.

"G" Company.

No. 4156, Pte. C. Jenkins.

At 1d. per diem restored:—

"E" Company.

No. 4151, Pte. E. Stratford.

"H" Company.

No. 3050, Piper D. McLachlan.

TRANSFERS.

To Highland Light Infantry.—No. 4533, Private W. Scott, "E" Company, to 2nd Battalion.

From "B" to "F" Company.—No. 3775, Corporal G. Forbes on promotion.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTIONS.

The following have been selected for a course of instruction in Electric Telegraphy:—

No. 4293, Private D. Newall, "B" Company, No. 4366, Private J. Graham, and No. 4771, Private J. Oliver, "C" Company.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

CASUALS'

	£	s.	d.
No. 4075, Private D. C. Macgregor, "F" Company ...	0	17	0
" 4567, " D. Englis, "G" Company ...	0	15	0
" 4295, Lance-Corporal A. Keeble, "H" Company ...	0	7	0

Commander of Best Shooting Section.

No. 4143, Lance-Corporal C. Charters, "F" Company ...	0	4	10½

Commander of Second Best Section.

No. 3153, Lance-Corporal H. Brodie, "F" Company ...	0	3	5½

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Right Wing Notes at Mian Mir.

THE right wing is productive of very little news this month. "A" Company indulged in another cricket match on the 12th September, their opponents being the Royal Artillery. The game, however, resulted in a draw, the time allowed being insufficient to complete an innings on either side. This is the only sporting event to be chronicled, and the full scores are consequently given.

'A" Company, Ninety-Third.—Sergeant Symcox 9, Privates McColl 0, Hindmarsh 0, Wicks 0, McLennon (not out) 17, Dunmore 0, Irwin 1, Campbell (not out) 8; extras 11, total (for 6 wickets) 47. *Royal Artillery.*—Bombadier Bellman 3, Gunners Williamson 14, Mason 3, Jones (not out) 0, extras 1, total (for 3 wickets) 22.

"B" Company relieved "D" at the Fort on the 10th ultimo, Second-Lieutenant Marshall remaining as commandant. Lieutenant Darroch was away on leave, but returned before the end of the month: he has been gazetted for duty at the depôt at Stirling, and expects to leave for home shortly.

Some invalids left for Bombay on the 21st September for passage home in the first trooper. They proceed *viâ* the Cape, and should be completely restored to health by the time Portsmouth is reached. A party of casuals, under Captain Robinson, have completed their annual course of musketry, but have not been scoring so well as might be expected. Lance-Sergeant Scott is the best shot of the party.

The most noteworthy feature of the month was the Sergeants' *al fresco* at home and dance, when the wing mess quite surpassed itself. This took place on the evening of Wednesday, 25th September, the tennis court being arranged for dancing and sitting out, and brilliantly illuminated. The night was all that could be desired, being delightfully cool, considering the time of year, without any breeze to cause anxiety to the lighting arrangements. Dancing to the band of the 34th Pioneers commenced soon after nine o'clock, and was continued until nearly midnight, when an adjournment was made to the supper tables, which, under the superintendence of Sergeant Symcox, had been prepared close by; and, it is needless to say, they did ample justice to the caterer. After supper a few more dances took place, interspersed with songs and recitations, the enjoyment not terminating until well into Thursday morning. Major Campbell, being on leave, was unable to be present, but Captain Robinson and a few officers of the station accepted the invitation. The fair sex, too, were quite in force, and it was quite a pleasure to see so many ladies braving the summer.

The evenings now are commencing to get delightfully cool, the punkah being more a luxury than an absolute necessity; and although the days are still very hot, the temperature registering 102° or 103° in the shade, the back of the summer may be said to have been broken. The greater variations of the temperature, however, makes the present season a rather trying one, though, fortunately, the wing still continues to keep its accustomed good health: a few isolated cases of ague have occurred, but heat apoplexy has quite disappeared, and the judicious dosing of the troops with quinine is proving a strong antidote to fever. No better proof of the fitness of the wing can be brought forward than the fact that for one whole fortnight not a single instance occurred of a man having to report sick off guard, and it is also noteworthy that very few men are ever reduced to the necessity of falling out on parade. Whilst the trees are commencing to bear that eastern apology for autumn tints, and the evenings are now drawing in, it will soon be necessary for "Retreat" to sound at six o'clock instead of at the present hour.

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The Influence of Discipline.

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THE following regimental anecdote, told by Doctor Munro, shows the extraordinary influence of discipline even of the mechanical lessons taught by it:—"When the enemy had been driven out of the Begum Koti, one of the men (of No. 9 Company) mounted by a flight of steps to the top of one of the buildings to see what was beyond. As he stood there a bullet struck him on the back of the head and lodged in the brain. He did not fall, but turned round and descended the stair with his rifle at the slope. On reaching the court below, he halted stood at attention, carried arms, ordered arms, unfixed his bayonet, stood at ease, and dropped dead. The poor fellow went through the positions as if on parade."

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Guns.

—o—

WHEREIN do guns resemble men?
I'll warrant 'tis beyond your ken.
Like all proud rulers of the land,
A gun has both a *guard* and *band*;
A *hammer*, though it never nails;
And though with *sight*, to see it fails;
Tho' not in business, has a *stock*;
Has naught of value—but a *lock*;
It has a *muzzle*—does not bite,
Tho' often mixed up in a fight;
It has a *toe*, but never mourns
The torture of its aching corns;
'Tis not a fisherman, and yet
It always has a good *bay'net*;
Like careful jewellery, sedate,
It has a place for to *lock-plate*;
And like poor Boniface, alas!
Often a empty *chamber* has.
As in saloons, a man, when tired,
Tho' *loaded* there, is often *fired*—
So with a gun, and it is quick—
Just like the man—to make a *kick*.

EDWIN D. GRAFF.—In *The American Guard*.

"The exigencies of the service don't require my presence at coal fatigue this afternoon, I presume, Corporal," said an aristocratic recruit to the acting Orderly Sergeant. But they did, and the recruit's Regtl. No. and name decorated a A. F. 252 B, before the day was much older.

The Guid Auld "Nine an' Three."

BALACLAVA DAY, 25*th October*, 1854.

AIR: "SCOTLAND YET."

Although I'm faur frae Scotland noo,
In a land ayont the sea,
Within ma inmost heart I'll keep
A warm place for thee.
Let English, Welsh, an' Irish sing
O' their lands wi' joyfn' glee,
I'll sing a sang, afore I gang,
Tae the guid auld "9 an' 3."
I'll sing a sang, afore I gang,
Tae the guid auld "9 an' 3."

On Balaclava's heights they stood
An' gien back blow for blow,
An' mony a Hieland laddie fell
Wi' his face turned tae the foe,
They focht against the Russian hordes
That ithers micht be free,
For Scotland's name, an' Scotland's fame,
An' the guid auld "9 an' 3,"
For Scotland's name, an' Scotland's fame,
An' the guid auld "9 an' 3."

Her flag floats proodly in the air,
Admired by ane an' a,'
An' still her sons are ready aye
Tae fecht at duty's ca,'
As their forbears did in days gane by
Lay doon their lives an' dee,
Sae a' fill up, an' drink a cup
Tae the guid auld "9 an' 3,"
Sae a' fill up, an' drink a cup
Tae the guid auld "9 an' 3."

FORT LAHORE
October 1895.

GUY WATSON.

———— : o : ————

Temperance Topics.

—o—

(*By Our Teetotal Reporter*).

THE quarter just ended has again proved an uphill one, for "Excelsior Tent," No. 190, I. O. R.; but during the term thay have gained a considerable number of new members, which has repayed them for their exertion. Bandsman R. Crawford is Secretary of the Tent, and will be glad to supply any one with information regarding the Order.

* * * * * * *

The "Pride of Sutherland" Branch is indeed doing well in Dalhousie. A purse of silver is being given at the end of the quarter to the member who brings most friends to join the Lodge. The prize is being presented by Bro. McGarvie, and has been the means of diffusing a considerable amount of energy into the members, and many are eing brought to join the I. O. G. T. During the quarter

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Bro. Crawford was presented with two useful and ornamental articles as prizes for essays, and the same member was successful in gaining the prize for a temperance essay given by "Mountain Spring" Lodge, No. 33.

* * * * * * *

A. T. A. Concert and Soiree.

A soirée and concert took place in the A. T. A. Rooms (Depôt). The tea was a decided success, close on two hundred members sitting down to it; whilst the concert, which was conducted in an able manner by Lance-Corporal Brasenell, was equally successful. During the evening the Association Medal for the Dalhousie Section of the Branch was presented to Bandsman R. Crawford.

The following was the Programme:—

PART I.

Overture ... Privates Woods and Cheshire, Border Regiment.
Recitation ... ... "Scotch Words."
Bandsman Crawford, Ninety-Third.
Song ... ... "Sailing merrily home."
Corporal H. Day, King's Royal Rifles.
Song ... ... "At the races."
Private Styles, Border Regiment.
Encore ... ... "Visiting day."
Mandoline Selection Privates Webb and Dipper, Ninety-Third.
Song ... ... Bandsman Denholm, Ninety-Third.
Song ... ... Private Gosling, Ninety-Third.
Song ... ... "Scotland the Brave."
Lance-Corporal Brasenell, Ninety-Third."
Song ... ... "He's not guilty."
Driver Hayes, Royal Horse Artillery.
Concertina and Banjo Duet ... Privates Wood and Cheshire.
Presentation of Association Medal ... To Bandsman Crawford.
Song ... ... "Mollie Riley."
Private Skinner, Ninety-Third.
Song ... ... "The Bugler."
Lance-Corporal Brasenell.

PART II.

Instrumental Selection ... ... Privates Wood, Cheshire, Webb. and Dipper.
Song ... ... Parody on "Sailing merrily home."
Private Skinner.
Recitation ... ... "The Quack Doctor."
Private McGarvie, Ninety-Third.
Encore... ... ... "Hands v. Heads."
Song ... ... "When shall I send you the Cradle."
Private Rossiter, Bedford Regiment.
Encore... ... ... "Mother's last good-bye."
Song ... ... "Hazell Dell."
Lance-Sergeant Clarke, Ninety-Third.
Recitation ... ... "Ostler Joe."
Sergeant Hodgson, King's Royal Rifles.
Concertina Solo ... ... Private Woods, Border Regiment.
Song ... ... "The Recruiting Sergeant."
Private Burgess, Ninety-Third.
Encore... ... ... "I'm in the Army."
Song ... ... "The Cameron Men."
Lance-Corporal Brasenell.

God Save the Queen.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line*—

With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union, non-commissioned officers and men of the Regiment. } Rs. 2 per annum.

Officers and others not connected with the Regiment. } Rs. 3 per annum.

NOTA BENE.

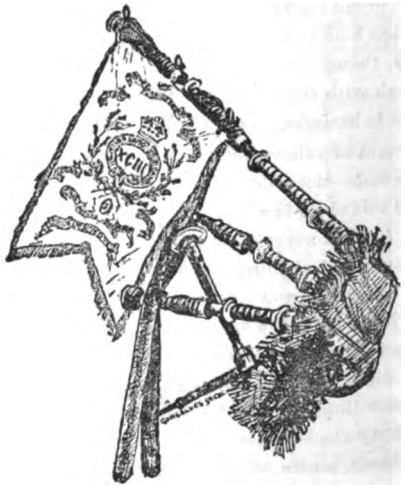
All connected with the Regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *The Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly, in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money-orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for spaces for advertisements should be made.



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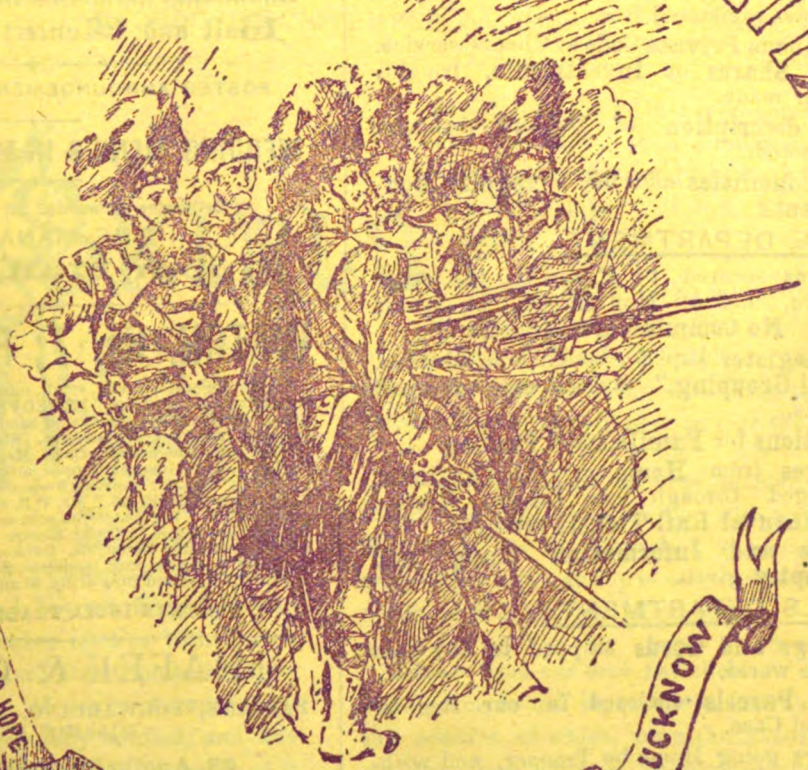
The Thin Red Line.



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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 11.—Vol. II. DALHOUSIE,—NOVEMBER 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE Indian Medal of 1854, with a bar inscribed "Waziristan, 1894 and 1895," is granted to the troops employed beyond Kajuri Kach from 22nd October 1894 and the 13th March 1895, and beyond Khandola and Minan from 17th December 1894 to 13th March 1895, both dates inclusive. Our friends, the Borders, at Mankote camp, of course became very festive when this was officially notified, and the sergeants gave a supper on the strength of it on the 2nd October, to which eighty-five guests sat down. After the supper a smoking concert took place, and a large programme of songs and recitations was gone through, Bandmaster Davies of ours officiating at the piano.

* * * * * *

On the following Friday the Border corporals entertained their brother corporals of ours and the depôt to a similar supper and smoking concert, and the festivities were prolonged until well into the following morning.

* * * * * *

Captain McNeil, who was with the 2nd Brigade as signalling officer, and Sergeant W. Weller and Private D. McRae, "G" Company, who were with the field hospital of the Border Regiment, will also receive the medal.

* * * * * *

All the signallers at head-quarters left here under Corporal Olden on the 10th October for Mian Mir, as the inspection is to take place early this month, and it is necessary for training purposes to have them all together.

* * * * * *

A team from our first battalion at Aldershot has accomplished an excellent marching feat, a full account of which, from the *Aldershot News*, we have published in another column. The capital marching of our home battalion during the recent manœuvres has recently been commented upon in these pages, and their latest record has caused the *Broad Arrow* to recall the fact that both battalions of the regiment have invariably held good marching reputations; and they relate an incident, that we cannot remember

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having seen before, of this battalion in 1871, when at a field-day at Aldershot, being ordered to make a forced march of over some four miles, to anticipate the enemy's arrival at a certain place, covered the distance well under the hour; the pace being such that the officer in command was obliged to request the mounted staff to make way with the remark, "You are stopping my men." Only one drummer boy fell out, and he was helped along by two privates, and never left the ranks.

* * * * * *

We have no idea where the reports originated, but it seems to be popular, both here and with the wing at Mian Mir, that the battalion is for Waziristan at no distant date. Our mad poet, on the strength of this rumour, has furnished us with an "inspiration," which will be found in another column.

* * * * * *

All old orders respecting the regiment's move to Nowshera have been cancelled, and the head-quarter wing now goes by train to its destination, leaving Dalhousie on the 4th instant, breaking the journey at Mian Mir, arriving on the morning of the 10th and leaving for Nowshera the next evening.

* * * * * *

The left wing at Mian Mir remains there until the arrival of the Somerset Light Infantry, in relief from Subathu, and then join head-quarters by route march, details of which were published in our August Number.

* * * * * *

Whilst on the subject of medals, it is reported that the old Indian Medal of 1854, with goodness knows how many bars, will soon be obsolete, and that a new medal to commemorate the Chitral Expedition will be issued in its stead. Those who seem to know have even decided the colour of the ribbon, which is to be green and yellow, a rather bilious mixture.

* * * * * *

Our home battalion has again sent a recruiting party to the Western Isles, which have not up to the present proved very prolific in the manner of recruits. We hope this venture may be more successful.

The Khud Race was decided on the 19th October. The first prize didn't come to Ticca, but was won by a "mixed team" of the Border Regiment, who covered the distance in the capital time of sixteen minutes. "H" Company's team of ours, however, were second, and, taken altogether, our teams acquitted themselves most creditably. The winning team, being a mixed one, was of course confined to no company, and probably consisted of picked athletes of the Border Regiment, in contrast to another of their teams, who were, perhaps, chosen in the usual manner, and who never reached the goal at all. All our teams covered the distance in fair time, the average being twenty-two minutes forty-six seconds. An account of the race appears on page 125.

* * * * * *

Dalhousie played Dharmsala at cricket on the Dhobi Flats during the early part of the month, 2nd Lieutenant Graham making 0 and 61 for the home team, and being our only representative in the Dalhousie eleven. Dharmsala, with whom was H. B. Champain, of Clifton and Gloucestershire fame, were the winners by nine wickets.

* * * * * *

Major C. Grant, who is at present officiating Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General for Musketry, 2nd Circle, Punjab Command, has lately published a treatise pertaining to the "extra" certificate, and has most aptly entitled it the "X. Y. Z. of Musketry."

* * * * * *

On the 14th October all the troops in garrison paraded on the depôt parade-ground on the occasion of a medal for long service and good conduct being presented to Barrack Sergeant McCulloch. The parade was formed up soon after half-past eight, when General Sir George Wolseley arrived, and was received with the usual salute, after which the presentation took place and the troops returned to the barracks.

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The Sutherland Fencible Regiments.

—o—

ALTHOUGH the Ninetieth Sutherland Highlanders was not raised until 1800, the county of Sutherland had previously furnished three regiments for the defence of the empire, and a short account of them may not prove uninteresting. The first was raised during the Seven Years' War, the officers' commission being dated August 1759. It numbered 1,050 men, and so tall were all its members that there were two grenadier companies, but no light one. In 1763 it was marched back to Sutherland and disbanded in May. During the whole period of service, such was the excellence of the men's behaviour that no restrictions had been required, and no man had been punished.

The second Sutherland Regiment was embodied at Fort George in February 1779, and was stationed near Edinburgh. "Desertions or crimes," says a contemporary account, "requiring the check of courts-martial, were unknown in this regiment. Such was their economy that if any officer in whom they had any confidence required a temporary supply of money, one thousand pounds could be raised among the men. They were always remitting money and sending home little presents to their friends." It was disbanded at Fort George in 1783, and a number of men afterwards joined the Ninety-Third Sutherland Highlanders on the formation of that regiment in 1800.

The third Sutherland Regiment, raised in Sutherland and Ross by Major-General William Wemyss of Wemyss, who had commanded the Sutherland Fencibles of 1779, was embodied at Fort George in 1793. In 1797 it extended its services to Ireland, and was engaged in the suppression of the Irish rebellion. It was disbanded at Fort George in 1798, but by far the greater number of the men re-enlisted in the Ninety-Third Sutherland Highlanders when that regiment was formed two years afterwards.

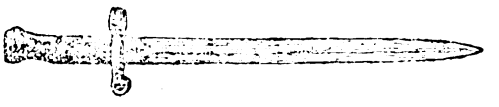
———:o:———

Example better than Precept.

—o—

SURGEON-GENERAL Paske relates an episode of the Mutiny which shows the influence of British officers over undisciplined tribesmen, and how even troops as brave as the Nepaulese levies needed to be led before they would face well handled artillery.

Information reached the British that a formidable medley of fighting men, with four guns and several trained gunners, was marching down the main road from Oude "We determined," says Surgeon-General Paske, "to take the bull by the horns, and test the mettle of our men in the face of well-served guns. A march of some ten miles brought us to a bend in the road and within view of the enemy, who were occupying a strong position on high ground and, from the lay of their guns, evidently awaited an attack from the main road. As, however, we pushed through the crops towards their rear, they changed front and faced us—a movement anticipated by our commandant, who intended to take due advantage of it. A flanking party was accordingly detached under a very promising young officer, but owing to the nature of the ground it made too long a détour and arrived on the scene too late to be of any service. Meanwhile, we moved leisurely within the range, their guns opening the ball, and ours promptly returning the salute. It did not, however, take long to discover in this artillery duel of two against four most of the fun was on their side; and after having allowed ample time for our flanking party to put in an appearance, the order was given to storm the enemy's position. To our horror not a man stirred. After every form of argument, persuasion, and threat had failed, it only remained for a few European officers to lead the way in the hope that the men might perchance follow. We therefore set out at a brisk pace, the guns flashing in our faces, round shot hissing and tearing overhead, and bullets in numberable pitting along the earth all round. But the hazardous experiment was crowned with success: for ere long the whole force dashed past us with a mighty cry, faces stern and set, their muskets trailing in the left hand, while with the right they gripped their terrible knives. Many bit the dust, but at last the kookeries got among the rebels, and every gunner died at his post. To us those gunners unquestionably owed their training, though they did not die in the company's uniform; few other Asiatics could have handled their guns with such effect; no others would have died for them."



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The India Medal.

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NOW that several members of the battalion will soon be receiving the "Frontier Medal," by which name the Indian medal of 1854 is perhaps best known, it may not be out of place to give a small space of the paper to its description. Although, perhaps, the most common of British war medals, many know little about it, nor for what campaigns it has been issued; and the extent of the knowledge of the majority is, that the ribbon is a crimson one with two blue stripes.

To describe the medal itself. The obverse bears Her Majesty's head with its usual inscription "Victoria Regina," and on the reverse is a winged figure of Victory, who is crowning with a laurel wreath a classic warrior seated, holding in his right hand a short sword, in his left the sheath, and beneath is a lotus flower.

Of the clasps there will now be twenty-one, including the latest one granted for Waziristan; and should Chitral not be thought worthy of a new medal, another clasp may be added for our latest campaign.

The medal was first issued in 1854 to those engaged in the Burmese War of 1852-53, the second Burmese War, and the clasp was inscribed "Pegu"; and since then the following clasps have been added:—

Persia, 1856-57;
North-West Frontier;
Umbeyla, 1863;
Bhootan, 1864-66;
Looshai, 1871-72;
Pera, 1875-76;
Jowaki, 1877-78;
Naga, 1875-79-80;
Burma, 1885-87;
Sikkim, 1888;
Hazara, 1888;
Burma, 1887-89;
Chin-Lushai, 1889-90;
Samana, 1891;
Hazara, 1891;
North-East Frontier, 1891;
Hunza, 1891;
Burma, 1889-92;
Lushai, 1889-92;

and last, but not least, "Waziristan, 1894-95."

Of these campaigns, the Umbeyla is the only one that the regiment served in, and there is at present no one serving with us in possession of the clasp for that expedition, though Drum-Major Duff, who left us at Aldershot, had it, and was the last in the battalion to wear it. Whether any other bars may have been earned by members of the regiment, we cannot say; but at the present time three are entitled to the Waziristan clasp, and, perhaps, six to the Chitral, should a bar so inscribed ever be issued.

In conclusion, we may add that the "Indian General Service Medal"—another name by which it is known—is in no way allied to the "Indian Mutiny Medal," that being a special medal authorised in 1858 for the Mutiny Campaign, and for which five clasps—"Delhi," "Defence of Lucknow," "Relief of Lucknow," "Lucknow" and "Central India"— were granted. The ribbon for this medal, as most know, was white with two red stripes.

PRIVATES' PAY.—In addition to his pay, which was 6*d.* a day, a Private of the Line, 1792, received a daily allowance of "necessary money," amounting to one half-penny. In the same year a new and additional allowance for necessaries, amounting to nearly one half-penny a day, was granted, and also an allowance of 1½*d.* a day for bread money. In the year 1795 all the said allowances were consolidated into one daily allowance of 2½*d.*, called the "consolidated allowance"; and in the course of that year, in consequence of the scarcity and dearness of provisions, a further allowance of 1½*d.* per day was granted in order to cover the price of the soldiers' bread and meat. These rates continued until May 1879, when an additional 2*d.* per diem was made to the Privates' pay and allowances, and the whole was thenceforward consolidated into daily pay at the rates specified in 1829, *viz.*, one shilling. By a regulation established from 25th June 1806, the Private became entitled to the following additional pay after completing certain periods of service—1*d.* after seven years, and 2*d.* after fourteen years.

NOT AFRAID.—When a Highland soldier was asked, after the battle of Waterloo, if he were not afraid, he replied, "Afraid! why I was in a' the battles o' the Peninsula!" And having it explained that the question merely related to a fear of losing the day, he said: "Na, na, I did na fear that: I was only afeard' we should be a' killed afore we had time the win it."

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT there are some smart detectives in hospital.

That they made a capture.

That the punkahs have stopped.

That the magpie said, "Come in."

That it didn't accept the invitation the second evening.

That the sergeants went it heavy on the twenty-fifth.

That mixed drinks were the go towards the sma' hours.

That some of the mixes were peculiar.

That there was no lack of musical talent.

That the signallers have their hands full.

What its Dalhousie cousin says:—

That there were great doings at Mankote on the second.

And also on the fourth.

That it will soon be off to Nowshera.

That it wont have an opportunity of showing its marching abilities.

That luck is still against it.

That the cup didn't come to Ticca.

That it tried its best.

That none of its team were lost.

That they all made good time.

That it congratulates its latest Captain and Lieutenant.

———:o:———

The Khud Race.

—o—

THE Khud Climbing Race, for which General Sir George Wolseley, K.C.B., Commanding the District, offered two prizes,—the first a handsome silver cup, and the second a purse of Rs. 30,—came off here on the 19th October. Eight teams, consisting of one officer or non-commissioned officer and twenty men, entered, four being from the Border Regiment at Mankote and four from our head-quarter wing. The race was against time: each team fully accoutred and carrying forty rounds of ammunition, starting from Mankote hill, then down the khud on the south side, and climbed home to our camp on Ticca Spur, a distance of about one mile. On arrival there three volleys were fired. The first team started off at 9-30 A.M., and the remaining teams followed at intervals of ten minutes. All our teams made good time, the quickest being "H" Company's, under Sergeant G. Gunn, who covered the distance in nineteen minutes, and the longest "E" Company's, who were only seven minutes behind them. A mixed team of the Border Regiment, however, were only sixteen minutes on the journey, and consequently secured the cup: the second prize, however, went to "H" Company of ours, and the average time of all teams was certainly in our favour, as one squad of the Borders took over thirty minutes, and another never finished at all. Our teams also had little or no practice, and the performance of all of them must be considered very creditable. They were also capitally handled, and in drill were far away above their opponents; but this alone could not win the race, although points were allowed for it, and the Border's time was of course the best. Appended is list of teams and time taken by each:—

Teams.	*Commander.*	*Time.*
"A" Co., Border Regiment.	Lieut. Coningham.	Did not finish.
"F" „ Ninety-Third.	Sergt. Irvine	...22 mins. 50 secs.
"C" „ Border Regiment.	Lieut. Pringle	...30 „ 39 „
"E" „ Ninety-Third.	Lieut. Villiers-Stewart	... 26 „ 25 „
"D" „ Border Regiment.	Lieut. Brooke	... 20 „ 0 „
"G" „ Ninety-Third.	Corporal Beavis	... 22 „ 50 „
Mixed team, Border Regiment.	Lce.-Sgt. Thomson	16 „ 0 „
"H" Co., Ninety-Third.	Sergt. Gunn	.. 19 „ 0 „

After the last team had finished their volleys the General handed the cup to Lieutenant Brooke, of the Border Regiment, and said:—

"The team commanded by Lance-Sergeant Thomson is the best. After deducting points for words of command and drill, we are unanimous in awarding his team the 1st prize." After a pause, turning to Lieutenant Brooke, he said: "Mr. Brooke, you get the cup." The winning team were then marched up amid vociferous cheers, and the gallant General, addressing Lance-Sergeant Thomson, said: "I have much pleasure in presenting to your team the first prize," at the same time handing him notes to the value of Rs. 40, requesting him to distribute the same to his team. "I understand that as an officer did not command the winning team, the officer in command of the next best team gets the cup, as it was intended for the officer in command of the winning team, had there been sufficient to command them"

"On the whole, I think the competition was most successful, and a good and practical training for mountain warfare."

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A Marching Record.

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(From the "Aldershot News.")

THE task which a party of nine of the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders set themselves to perform on Wednesday must rank as a record for marching and physical endurance which has not been surpassed. The object of the march was to cover the distance between Aldershot and Hyde Park corner between dawn and sunset, and the task was most successfully accomplished. The party comprised Captain Thorburn, Second-Lieutenant D. J. Glasford, Colour-Sergeant Paine, Pipers Mackay and Robb, Privates Douglas, Armitt, Walker, and Kilpatrick. They set out in marching order with full kit, and the officers carried forty rounds of ammunition. A start was made at 4-40 A.M., and the route taken was along Alexandra road, through Bagshot and Egham to Staines, which was reached at 9-15, where a halt of nearly an hour-and-a-half was made for breakfast. The march was continued through Hounslow and Brentford, the party being accompanied by Captain Douglas, Chaplain Bush, and Sergeant-Major Williamson, who checked all times, and vouched for the accuracy of the details of the journey. At Brentford a halt was made for dinner, and before five o'clock the party passed Knightsbridge Barracks and reached Hyde Park corner, where Lieutenant-Colonel O. C. Hannay, Major Tottenham, Major Campbell, Major Collings, and a number of officers were gathered to witness the arrival. The party proceeded down Birdcage Walk to Wellington Barracks, where a most enthusiatic reception awaited them from the 1st Coldstream Guards, who, it will be remembered, were on the manœuvres, and their appreciation of the performance was unbounded. At seven o'clock the party was played out of barracks by the drums of the Coldstream Battalion, and the cheers were again renewed as the men drove off to the railway station, Aldershot being reached at half-past nine. The following is the detailed table of the march as verified by the officers who accompanied the party :—

Left North Camp, 4-40 A.M., arrived at Staines 9-15 A.M; 18 miles 4 hours 35 minutes.

Left Staines, 11 A.M., arrived at Brentford, 1-25 P.M.; 10 miles 2 hours 25 minutes.

Left Brentford, 3-0 P.M., arrived at Hyde Park Corner, 5 0 P.M.; 6 miles 2 hours.

Total distance, 34 miles.
Time on the march, 9 hours.
Halts, 3 hours 20 minutes.
Total time on the road, 12 hours 20 minutes.
Rate of actual marching, 15·88 per mile.
Including halts, 21·76 per mile.

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A Sagacious Regimental Pet.

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"AS the barracks of the Ninety-Third at Toronto," says Surgeon-General Munro, "were several miles distant from the city, and the thirsty souls, who liked their grog, found it difficult to procure their early morning dram, so they hit upon the following plan. Having made arrangements with a tavern-keeper in the city, they trained a dog (one of the wise Newfoundland breed) to go to the tavern early every morning with an empty bicker round his neck, and money in his mouth, to bring back a supply. The sagacious animal continued to do this daily for a considerable time, but was at last discovered —caught in the act—and sentenced by the commanding officer to be shot. But the dog was a regimental pet, and the regiment in a body petitioned that he might be spared. The request was granted on the condition that he should not be employed again on such degrading work. A promise to that effect was given, and honourably kept even by the unsteady, thirsty souls, who, therefore, with such a high sense of honour as to keep their word, even at the expense of their grog, could not have been altogether bad."

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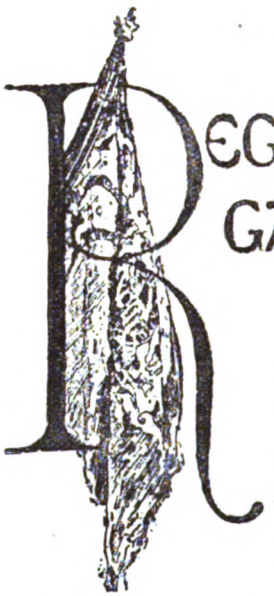

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACTS FROM "LONDON GAZETTE."

10th September 1895.

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland) Highlanders.—Lieutenant H. P. Moulton-Barrett to be Captain in succession to Major A. Wilson, Commandant, Colonial Forces, Western Australia.

2nd Lieutenant J. Campbell to be Lieutenant *vice* H. P. Moulton-Barrett.

17th September 1895.

The promotion to the rank of Captain of Lieutenant H. P. Moulton-Barratt is ante-dated to 7th November 1894.

The promotion to the rank of Lieutenant of 2nd Lieutenant J. Campbell, dated 23rd July 1895, is *vice* A. Sutherland, appointed Adjutant, and not as notified in the *Gazette* of 10th September 1895.

APOINTMENTS.

To be Piper.—No. 3378, Pte. F. Lynch, "D" Company.

INVALIDS.

The following invalids have embarked for England :—

No. 2032, Sergeant R. Sim, "D" Company; No. 4022, Private P. Phillips, "A" Company; and No. 4631, Private J. Jarvie, "B" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following are granted 2*d.* per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 3425, Private R. Nelson.

"B" Company.

No. 3229, Private J. Amos.

"D" Company.

No. 3322, Private S. H. Taylor.

The following are restored 1*d.* per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 3221, Pte. J. McCormack.
No. 3848, „ J. Scott.
No. 3156, Pte. A. O'Hara.
„ 2838, „ N. McColl.
„ 3791, „ J. Adams.

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"B" Company.

No. 3515, Pte. R. Sutherland. | No. 3641, Pte. C. Jones.
„ 4003 „ J. Sutherland.

"D" Company.

No. 3108, Pte. L. Seagriffe. | No. 3823, Pte. T. Brown.

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Right Wing Notes at Mian Mir.

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WE are no longer "under the punkah," those articles having ceased to swing on the 14th ultimo. Certainly many changes have taken place during the past month, for with the advent of the official cold season, serge clothing has again been taken into wear after a banishment of some six months, or so; and, however incongruous it may seem, a white helmet and a great-coat closely buttoned are not unfrequently met with—the appearance of the wearer leading no one to believe that the temperature still registers over 140° in the sun.

Several of the regiments returning from Chitral have passed through the rest-camp lately, most of them being native troops – the 1st and 4th Gurkhas for Dharmsala and Bakloh, and the 13th Bengal Infantry for Bareilly. The Seaforth Highlanders passed through Mian Mir on their way to Ferozepore, but did not detrain. The King's Royal Rifles, who relieve the Buffs at Jullundur, arrived on the morning of the 4th November, and left for their new station on the evening of the same date, resting in camp during the day. Colonel Kelly's 32nd Pioneers, whom we last saw on the Umballa manœuvres, are back from Gilgit and Chitral, and have taken over the lines of the 34th Pioneers, which regiment remains at Jhelum for the present. Of more interest Lieutenant A. Patten has returned from service with the Twenty-Fifth in Chitral, and Corporal C. Johnstone and Lance-Corporal A. Kettles have returned from duty as Transport Sergeants with the relief force.

Nearly all the officers have been returning from leave during the late month. Captain Cameron from Kashmir; Lieutenants Bell, Tweedie and Johnston-Stewart from home, the latter after nearly fifteen months' absence; and Lieutenant Maclean from leave in the country. Captain McNeill is still away in Somaliland, as is also Lieutenant Macdonald, and lately got tossed by a rhinoceros, though he very fortunately escaped with only a severe shaking.

The left-half of "C" Company has now completed musketry, leaving the company with an average of 128·25; and several parties of casuals have also concluded with 120·71, which, though not high, gives the battalion a slightly better position than last year. "B" Company only remains to complete.

Another tennis tournament between the officers and sergeants of the wing took place on the latter's court on the 7th and 11th October: the officers this time, with Captain Robinson and 2nd Lieutenant Johnston-Stewart, proving much too strong for their opponents and winning all games. On the evening of the latter date, the first performance, provided by the talent of the wing, took place in the regimental theatre, under the management of Sergeant J. W. Green, for the benefit of the family of the late Sergeant-Major McRae. The performance was hardly the success it might have been, the programme being much too long, and the executive not exercising that control that is essential to the success of all amateur variety entertainments. A minstrel troupe from "B" Company at Fort Lahore supplied the first part of the programme, which was fairly good. Private Brand's song, "When the Roses come again," being quite his best, whilst Lance-Corporal G. Watson also sang in very good style. The latter part of the programme, except for songs from the two above-mentioned artistes, and a native conjuror and ventriloquist, who was certainly the novelty of the evening, was quite uneventful. The performance was for one night only.

All the signallers from Dalhousie have joined the wing, and are busy training under 2nd Lieutenant Maclean, who has returned from leave, and Sergeant Smith for the coming inspection which is to take place on the 7th November. Not much more than a fortnight's practice can be expected before the examination; but even with this it is to be hoped that last year's result, if it cannot be eclipsed, may at least be equalled.

The sergeants of the wing celebrated "Balaclava Day" right royally on the 25th with a dinner and smoking concert in the mess. Last year, owing to the move from the hills, the anniversary of the "thin red line" was not kept in any recognised form by the sergeants; but this year it was determined by the "right half" to celebrate the day in the customary manner, and the usual dinner and concert was determined upon. A committee, consisting of Sergeants Symcox, Maxwell and Ross, made all the necessary arrangements, and must have felt supremely gratified at the success their efforts attained. As the celebration was to be a semi-regimental affair only a few invitations were issued; representatives of the Royal Artillery, 11th Hussars, Punjab Light Horse and the Medical Department being present, together with a few civilian friends from Lahore, one of whom, as a lance-corporal of the Seventy-Ninth Cameron Highlanders, was in Balaclava Harbour when the "Assembly" sounded and the regiment formed up to repel the Russian charge forty-one years ago.

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"Pibroch O'Donhuil Dhu" and the "Athol Highlanders" by the pipers, who played at intervals during the repast, preceded the dinner, which was served soon after nine o'clock. After dinner the officers arrived, and the usual loyal and other toasts were proposed by the chairman, Color-Sergeant Swan, with Highland honours—"The Queen"; "Army and Navy"; "Those who fell at Balaclava,"—the toast of the evening,—which was drunk in silence; "The Survivors"; "The Officers of the Regiment"—to which Captain Robinson responded; "The Ladies," "Absent Comrades," and "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Mr. Russell, late of the Seventy-Ninth. After the more serious duties had been attended to, an adjournment was made, and the musical part of the entertainment was gone through most successfully. Mr. Russell opened the programme with "Bonnie Dundee." Mrs. Burke followed with "Close to the threshold." Sergeant Murdock, Ninety-Third, gave "Green grow the rushes," which was followed by the "Drunkard's Ragged Wean" by Mr. Russell. Miss Brown then sang "After the Ball" very nicely, and, as an encore, "Papa wouldn't buy me a bow-wow." Sergeant Ellis gave "You are my Fairy." Mrs. Groombridge, "Daisy Bell." Lieutenant Tweedie, his old favourite, "Tommy Atkins." Mrs. Ellmore, "Beyond the Harbour Bar." Mr. Russell again obliged with "Ye Banks and Braes." Squadron Sergeant-Major Thompkins, 11th Hussars, "Ye Gallants of England." Batt. Sergeant-Major Vincent, R. A., "Irish and Welsh." 2nd-Lieutenant Maclean, "Braw wee cleark in ta office." Mr. Millar, Punjab Light Horse, "The Holy Friar." Sergeant Green, Ninety-Third, "In Days of Old." Mrs. Burke, "Dream Faces." Quartermaster-Sergeant Pike, R. A., "Our Friend Jack." Miss Brown, "Maid of the Mill." Squadron Sergeant-Major Belton, Punjab Light Horse, "In the Gloming." "Jock o' Hazledean" as a quartette and "Auld Lang Syne" concluded a very enjoyable evening, though before the company finally dispersed several impromptu reels were danced, and many attempts were made to emulate the deeds of "Willy, Rob and Allan" of immortal fame in the "wee sma' hours ayont the twal."

Lieutenant D. Darroch, who goes to the depôt for two years, left on the evening of Balaclava Day for Bombay in charge of details from the rest-camp, invalids and time-expired men.

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A Company Gaff.

—o—

"Huzoor!"

"It tickles one's fancy to be called 'Prince,' even by one's bearer."

"What is it, Ram Sing?"

"Two sahibs of your honor's company are without. It's all very well to call me a Prince; but I'm not quite sure that Tommy is entitled to be a Sahib; but that is by the way."

"Show them in. Here, wait. Give me the Queen's regulations and a bit of paper and a pencil, and put the defaulters' book open upon the table there, and lay the Minor Tactics Scheme over Les Demi Vierges."

"Now show 'em in."

"Ah! Whistler and Jones, what can I do for you?"

"Beg pawdon, sir. I asked Lance-corpril Jones to bring me afore you."

"Well, what is it. I hope that the d——d *bobarchi*—I mean I hope it's no complaint about the company's cook."

"No, sir. It's this. Sum of the fellers of 'C' was gassing in the cant—in the reg-i-mental institute last night, a-saying as they 'ad company's gaffs, and 'ow we 'ad a gaffin captin and yet never 'ad a gaff, and I told Privit Walker as 'ow he was a——"

"Well; well! well! What is it you want?"

"If it ain't takin' a liberty, sir, will you run a gaff for us, and knock the stuffin' out of them dirty 'C' chaps."

"I'll talk to the colour-sergeant about it to-morrow."

"Thank ye, sir. Come on, Lance-corpril Jones" (Lance-Corporal Jones gives necessary words of command)—"and" (diminuendo) "if we don't knock the mortar out of them measley gaffin *janwars* of 'C,' why——"

"What's this about a gaff the men want, colour-sergeant?"

"I don't quite rightly know, sir. But they seem anxious to do something, and I told the corprils in charge of squads to send me nominal rolls of men willing to take part in it, showing length of service and classification—I mean, sir, qualification for the job."

"Let me see. Ah,—eh—yes. Private Whistler, five years' service, no badges, marksman, nigger minstrel; but could play heroes in tragedy or anything else. Private Perkins, three years' service, one badge, third-class shot, sentimental vocalist—'Down by the old canteen' and 'My sweetheart when a boy,'—but would lend a hand to any job. Corporal Swinton, N.-C.-O., reciter, forgotten his recitation, but will help any way to down 'C'—and so on, and so on."

"I suppose we must do something, colour-sergeant?"

"I s'pose so, sir. It's not much in my line; but I don't like that 'C,' specially with a young colour-sergeant going round saying we can't do anything."

"Look here, my men. We've talked the matter over, and we'll do something—something to make 'C' sit up" (cheers) "and make 'em sit down" (*sotto voce* from Whistler). "The only question is—What?" (Murmurs, mention of 'Pond Lily Minstrels,' 'Good old Hamlick,' and finally from drummer Robinson a suggestion of Tableau—he called it 'Tablokes'—Vivant, which gains, gradually, general acceptance)."

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"Tableaux Vivants it's to be then? Well, draw up a programme amongst yourselves, and I'll do anything I can to help you."

"Beg pawdon, sir"; 'ere's the program as I an' Robinson an' some of the others 'as drawn up, and the coloured-sergeant told me to bring it to you."

"Ah! 'H' Company's tableaux vivants. Overture by company's band?"

"Yes, sir. There's Branston the trombon, and Crampton the oboe, and Wilkinson what used to be a flageolet, but was broke for being drunk when for officers' mess; and Brown, he says as 'e'll make his young brother, what's the second cornet, transfer from 'G' to us, to be with his elder brother, or 'e'll give 'im a blessed good 'iding; and Robinson, e'll fill in any 'oles in the music with 'is drum."

"All right."

"First tableaux: Portia, Portia?"

"Yes, sir; Mrs. Repton, the coloured-sergeant's wife, sir. She went to a fancy ball at Malta as Portia, out of Shakespeare, and she's got the costume, and we'd dress up one of them *lurkies* out of the *bobarchi khana* to 'oid 'er train, and we thought p'r'aps as you'd recite something out of Shakespeare."

"Well, I daresay I could manage Othello's address to the Senate."

"Thank you, sir, 'Thello's 'dress to the Senate."

"England's dying hero. What's that, Whistler?"

"Beg pawdon, sir, that's me. I can borrow a kilt from the Jocks—from the 'Handers, sir—and be on one knee with a gory 'ankerchief round my 'ed, sir, with red light in the wings, and private Parkins singing 'My sweet'art when a boy."

"Very good. Third tableau: 'The mother and her dying kid.'"

"Dying child, sir, I should have wrote. That recruit, sir, Green, what come out in the last draft, an' ain't got a moustache, bending over a cradle; the coloured-sergeant's got a cradle, and a 'evenly light coming down from above. Lance-corpril Jones, sir, what's a signaller, says 'e'll ask the adjutant for the signalling lamps and do the 'evenly light, and Corpril Swinton 'e'll recite *The Dying Babe*."

"Capital! Fourth and last tableau: 'Britannia and her sons.'"

"Yes, sir, Mrs. Repton in the march-past flag as Britannia, and the rest of us as soldiers and sailors, and firemen, and that sort of things, with the band playing 'Rule Britannia,' and after that we thought we'd turn it into a free-and-easy, and ask you to let us have a quart a man out of the company cricket club fund."

"I'm afraid that I can't sanction the quart from the cricket-club, otherwise all right."

. . . . . .

(The regimental theatre, a great barnlike building badly lighted, a few officers in the stalls, which are barrack chairs loaned for the occasion, a big crowd of men on the benches behind the chairs. "C" Company to a man present, and disposed to be noisy. The sound of swearing and a long wail comes from the screened-in space that is called, by courtesy, a dressing-room.)

"Up with the blooming rag! Come on with yer tableaux vivants!"

"Can't we get on with this, colour-sergeant?"

"Well, sir, it's Green. 'C' Company got hold of him early this afternoon and treated him in the canteen. He isn't fit for picquet nor for guard, and how 'e's going to do the mother, I don't know."

"We must get on somehow. Where's Whistler?"

"Here, sir!"

"Why can't we get on with the first tableau?"

"It's that *lurki*, sir. I washed 'im with my own hands, and dressed him up, and now the little black devil don't want to do it, so I 'it him a clip over the 'ead."

"Up with yer rag! Are yer getting yer wax-work made?"

(Silence reigns as the company's band strikes up "Two Little Girls in Blue," with Drummer Robinson doing most of it. Then the curtain rises showing Mrs. Repton in white and large pearls against a back ground, suggesting Windsor Castle, her train supported by a small black boy in scanty turkey red. As the curtain reaches the top, the small boy looks round towards the wings, from whence a large fist suddenly comes into the picture. The small boy begins a long whine. The curtain drops amidst the titters of the audience).

Othello's address to the Senate:—

"'Ere, 'ere!" (this from 'C' Company). "Most potent, grave and reverend signors, my very noble and approved good masters." "Chuck it, Enery Irvine" (from 'C' of course.) "That I have taken away," &c., &c., &c.

(A dead silence at close of recitation, broken only by a still, small voice from the confines of 'C' asking, "What do you take to cure you of that?" The curtain rises again on *England's Dying Hero*, Private Whistler, in the full uniform of the Southsea Highlanders, with a red inked handkerchief round his head, and another round his arm, kneeling on one knee and contemplating the flies, while two shovels, with red fire blazing on them, show plainly from either side of the picture. A faint, but unpleasant noise from behind the scenes is understood to be Parkins singing "My sweetheart when a boy."

"Oo got cells for tearing up his trousers? Oo stole the colour-sergeant's red ink? Pull up yer socks!" (All this, needless to say, from the opposition.) After a long pause the curtain goes up again, and Private Green, attired in an old dress of the colour-sergeant's wife, and with a big mob cap, is discovered kneeling by a cradle with the same old back ground of Windsor Castle, swaying slightly to and fro, and hiccoughing at uncertain intervals; a stream of light is poured down on the top of his cap.

"Hullo, Green, is that you? Come over and have an other pint." (Green smiles feebly). "Don't fall into the cradle." (The light from above suddenly ceases, and recommences again, and then keeps on blinking. Lance-Corporal Jones, who is nervous, is playing with the signalling shutter.)

(A quick curtain as Green upsets the cradle.)

"Very sorry, sir, but Mrs. Repton says she won't go on again to be insulted by those men in front."

"Certainly, colour-sergeant—certainly. Whistler, you'd better go on, as you're stage manager, and tell them the lights have gone wrong, or some other lie, and that the entertainment is concluded."

(Whistler, still stained with red ink, squeezes in front of the curtain).

"Ladies and gents,—Owing to an unfortunate accident to our lighting arrangements—what, is Jones boozed again?" ('C' Company naturally)--owing to an unfortunate accident——" 'Oh, wash out!'——'). "Look here, you measley *janwar's* over there in 'C.' This 'ere shows' over. We ain't going to treat you to no more of it; but if any of you likes to come round to the stage door, I'll knock your dirty heads off for you. Now, *chup*, dy'e hear."

(*Exit amidst alarums and excursions.*)

From *Quis Separabit.*

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The Regimental Bhistie.

—o—

YOU arsts me what a *bhistie* is,
You roosters at the 'Shot,
Who does route marchin' when it's cold
And field-days when it's 'ot;
Who damns Long Valley marchin' past
An' grouses at the sand,
Or gits put out of action, *cush*,
Alongside o' the band.

'Taint Crown Prince Wood—nor yet Fox 'ills
Wot's runnin' in my mind,
With arf a dozen "fizzer-men"
A blockin' up be'ind;
But a little war with a Afghan Chief
Who, of course, we made retire,
When the *bhistie* was our fizzer-man
An' mos'ly under fire.

For the *bhistie* marches out to fight without no sword 'an gun,
'E's a fizzer-man, an' a water-cart, and a fightin' man in one;
'E's mos'ly 'ot, an' 'e's mos'ly wet, an' his legs is sometimes thin,
An' a copper medal is wot 'e gits when the medal roll goes in!

'E wears no ammunition boots,
'E's got no 'avresack,
'E marches bare foot up the 'ills,
'Is mussick on 'is back;
'E's up before revally goes,
An' pads it with "T. A.,"
With a *jaldi ao'!* an' a *pani lao!*
The steamin', dusty day.

An' when the shots is droppin' thick
An' ranks is gittin' thin,
The *bhistie's* just a plucked 'n then
For all 'is dusky skin!
'E dodges where the bullets fly
An' like a drinkin' chum
'E dishes out the *pani*, boys,
Till 'e goes ter kingdom come!

For the *bhistie* is a 'eathen p'r'aps, an' comes from Gawd knows where,
'E aint got any clothes or kit, leastways not much to spare;
But take my oath when you're gaspin', stiff, jammed up an' done for clean,
'E's a corfy shop an' a "A. T. A." 'itched on to a full canteen!

There's regimental followers
Wot stays an' comes an' goes.
There's sweepers for conservancy
And *dhobies* for your clothes;
There's lascars, syces, grasscut, too,
There's cooks 'an boys galore,
To 'ang around the glory of
A fust rate fightin' corps.

But swelp me! If I think there's one
Of all the grinning crew,
Gits warned for alf the dangers, chaps,
The *bhistie* scrambles through;
'E's on'y, p'r'aps, a follower,
An' 'e carnt earn no "V. C.,"
But if 'e aint a fightin' man,
Then I sez as 'e oughter be!

For *pani* is the *bhistie's kom* when Atkins does perspire,
An' *pani* is the *bhisite's kom* with Atkins under fire;
'E don't look like a 'ero quite, but 'e's built on the same old plan,
An' you'll allers find 'im a blockin' up as the 'ero's rear rank man!

"J. A. N."—In the *Madras Mail*.

———:o:———

Proscription of the Highland Dress.

—o—

THE following is the wording of the Act proscribing the Highlanders' national dress:—"That from and after the first day of August, one thousand seven hundred and forty-seven, no man or boy, within that part of Great Britain called Scotland, other than such as shall be employed as officers and soldiers in His Majesty's Forces, shall, on any pretext whatsoever, wear or put on the clothes commonly called Highland clothes (that is to say): the Plaid, Philabeg, or little Kilt, Trouse, Shoulder-belts, or any part, whatsoever, of what peculiarly belongs to the Highland garb, and that no tartan or party-coloured plaid or stuff shall be used for great-coats or upper coats; and if any such person shall presume, after the said first day of August to wear or put on the aforesaid garments, or any part of them, every such person so offending, being convicted thereof by the oath of one or more credible witness or witnesses before any Court of Justiciary, or any one or more Justices of the Peace for the Shire or Stewartry, or Judge Ordinary of the Peace, where such offence shall be committed, shall suffer imprisonment without bail during the space of six months, and no longer; and being convicted of a second offence before the Court of Justiciary, or at the Circuits, shall be liable to be transported to any of His Majesty's Plantations beyond the seas, there to remain for the space of seven years.

Lay of the Right Wing.

—o—

AT last we are leaving Meean Meer-a;
The troops are shouting "Here—here-a:"
We are off to the base
At a deuce of a pace
And soon will be fixed at Nowshera.

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The British Army.

THE general annual returns of the British Army for 1894, which have been issued as a Parliamentary paper, state that the average effective strength of the regular Army during 1894, according to the monthly returns, was 219,121, a greater number than has been recorded in any previous years since 1875. On January 1st, 1895, the effective strength was 222,151, consisting of 107,810 at home, including 76,700 in England and Wales, 25,262 in Ireland, 3,985 in Scotland, and 1,863 in the Channel Islands; 77,492 in India; 31,783 in the colonies, and 5,066 in Egypt. This number, 222,151, is made up of 138,897 infantry of the line, 33,345 Royal Artillery, 18,356 cavalry of the line, 7,591 Royal Engineers, 5,948 foot guards, 5,042 in colonial corps, 3,891 Horse Artillery, 3,479 in Army Service Corps, 862 in Ordnance Store Corps, 2,563 in Medical Staff Corps, 1,318 Household Cavalry, 307 in Corps of Armourers, and 552 in Army Pay Corps. During 1894 there was a total increase in the Army of 36,657, including 33,698 recruits, who comprise 1,708 long service men, 1,368 three years' men, and 30,622 seven years' men. Of the rest, 1,833 joined from desertion, 50 from the Army Reserve, and 1,076 from other causes. The total decrease amounted during 1894 to 33,965, including 1,792 dead, 3,958 struck off as deserters, and 1,792 discharged for misconduct. Altogether 16,229 men were transferred to the Army Reserve. The net increase in the year amounted to 2,692. Of the 33,698 recruits, 23,352 were under 20 years of age. The Army Reserve numbered on January 1st this year 82,804. On the first day of last year it stood at 80,530, and in no previous year since 1876 did it reach 80,000.

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Idiotic Inspiration.

—o—

TO a station, the name of Wano,
They say that this regiment will go.
Should Waziris go wrong
We are sure of a gong—
Oh! then how our trumpets we'll blow.

White gaiters were not worn by officers of the regiment until 1835, the following being an extract of regimental orders of that year:—

"*Richmond Barracks, Dublin:*
24th November 1835.

The commanding officer requests officers will supply themselves with white gaiters, with a view to their appearing in them, when dressed in kilts, on occasions in which the men are ordered to wear them.

Lament of the Third Class Shot.

—o—

I CANNOT make points eighty,
I can't upon my word;
But as to saying 'tis my fault,
'Tis perfectly absurd.
Think you I shoot thus for a lark?
A face of brass I'd got,
To stand thus daily jeers, because
I'm but a Third Class Shot.

Snaps I can take without a wink,
And as for "poking drill,"
I've had enough to make me shoot
A midge a-mile, or kill
An emmet on St. Paul's, and yet
I curse my helpless lot,
With all my snapping, poking too,
I'm but a Third Class Shot

More blank I've fired in my time
Than I need tell, or could;
And, though I've fired with Morris tube,
My shooting's far from good.
All dodges I have vainly tried,
An "eye patch," and what not,
Yet all is useless: to my grief
I'm still a Third Class Shot!

A hollow's in my shoulder, for
The hollow of the but;
I keep my left arm under well,
My cheek low down I put;
My thumbs are in the proper place,
No rule laid down forgot,
Yet spite of all and spite of will,
I'm still a Third Class Shot!

I'm told that my position's good,
My eyes are good, I'm sure;
My will is good, I truly vouch,
And yet I must endure
The scoffs, the sneers, the laughs, the jeers
Of those I injure not;
And Why? Because, I'm vexed to say,
I'm but a Third Class Shot!

The other day I made a hit,
Of twenty rounds the first
(My heart beat fast at sound so rare,
I thought I should have burst);
The boys around astonished were,
"A fluke," they cried—guess what—
"Wrong target," from the marker's butt,
For me—poor Third Class Shot!

I cannot lay the blame on drink,
Or else I'd think 'twas it,
No p(o)ints I take, they give me none,
Because I never hit.
I'd give this day a trifle,
I'd also stand a pot,
To hold my head upright and say
I'M NOT A THIRD CLASS SHOT!

"FUNKEY BOBBER," *Queen's Own Gazette.*

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Editorial.

—o—

WE have had the pleasure of seeing Colonel Percy Groves' "History of the Ninety-Third Sutherland Highlanders," published by Messrs. W. and R. K. Johnston, of Edinburgh. The history is not a voluminous one, but states briefly the doings of the regiment from 1800 to the present day. The illustrations are its chief recommendation, and those by Harry Payne are very good indeed, though some of them are perhaps rather startling. For instance, a piper of 1845 is shown in full "Rob Roy" tartan, tunic, kilt and hose complete (we were always under the impression that the popular red and black check originated in the fertile brain of some Southron tailor), and a bandsman of 1850 is also shown in what appears to be the tartan of the Sinclairs. Khaki is shown as the uniform in which the regiment advanced to Lucknow in 1857, and this we believe, though not generally known, was the dress worn when the relief was effected. The regiment had been equipped for foreign service in China, when its destination was changed owing to the outbreak of the Mutiny, and it was the only corps similarly uniformed. There is a story to the effect that spies carried information to the beleagured garrison at Lucknow that a regiment in brown, and another in blue (Captain Peel's Naval Brigade), were coming to its relief, which information was very naturally discredited by those in the Residency. Several plates show the uniform of "1895" in the full Highland dress of home service: it would have been certainly more accurate to have 1891 as the date, as that year was the last in which the regiment appeared with the feather bonnet. But the sketches are very good, and, with a few technical exceptions, correct in detail. Plates of the service marching order of the regiment at the present time and our other foreign service uniforms would make the illustrations as complete as they possibly could be, and we beg to offer this as a suggestion to the publishers.

BIRTHS.

—o—

LINDSAY.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 11th October 1895, the wife of No. 244, Lance Corporal J. Lindsay, of a son, James Charles John.

—o—

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We beg to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions for one year from the following:—

Lance-Corporal Spittal.

NOTA BENE.

All connected with the Regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *The Thin Red Line*.

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly, in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

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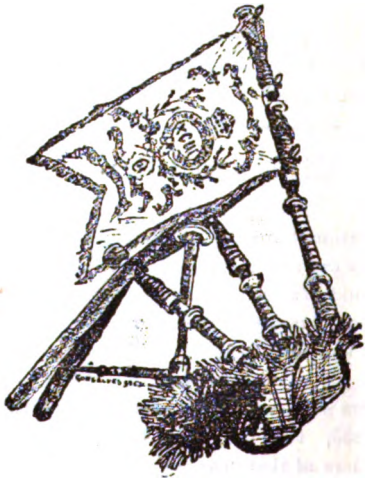
Cheques, money-orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for space for advertisements should be made.



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OF THE

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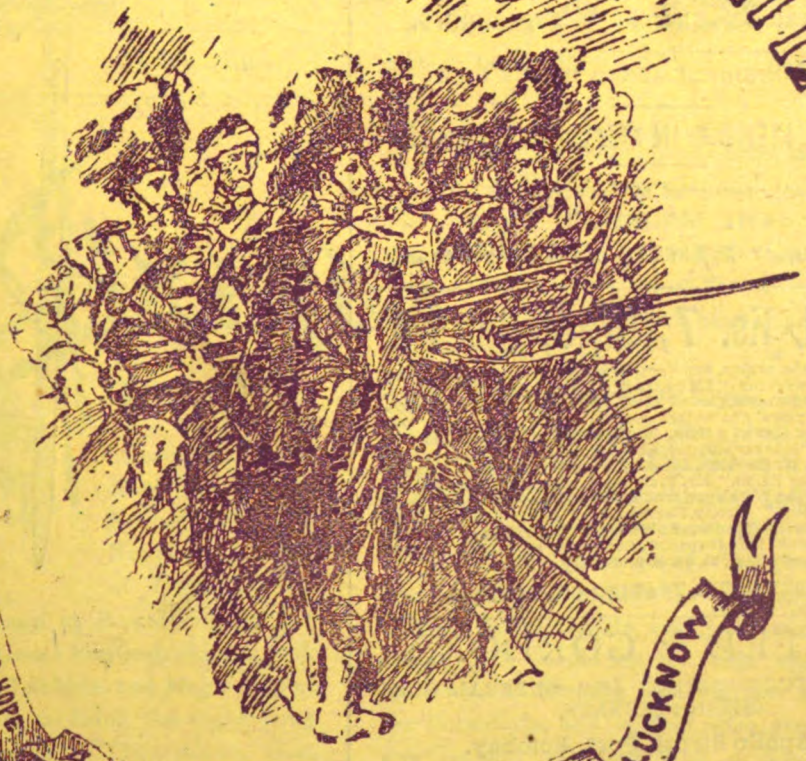
The Thin Red Line.



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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 12.—Vol. II. NOWSHERA,—DECEMBER 1st, 1895. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE head-quarters left Dalhousie under Major Napier on the 4th November for Nowshera, resting at Mian Mir on the 10th and 11th, and at Rawalpindi on the 12th. Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh took over command at Pathankote, and Major Napier was left at Mian Mir to bring the right wing up country in December. The march from Dalhousie was quite uneventful, the usual routine being observed, and the wing being very fit there were few casualties. All the heavy baggage of the regiment was entrained at Mian Mir, and the two days' halt at that place was not thrown away. All men of the right half who had been transferred early in the year to proceed to the hills were left with their respective companies at Mian Mir, as were also all the men who will become time-expired during the present trooping season; the pipers and all available drummers also remained at Mian Mir, the band only proceeding with head-quarters.

* * * * *

First impressions of Nowshera are not particularly reassuring. The place itself has unanimously been voted worse than Mian Mir, and there is no recompensing Lahore within easy distance, the nearest town of any size being Peshawar, 25 miles away. At present duty consists of twelve men for quarter-guard, the sentries being double ones; at night one is armed with an old Snider rifle charged with buckshot, as a sharp look out has to be kept for *lootwallahs*, and against such gentry a shot gun is more effective than a finely sighted Lee-Metford rifle. Our neighbours are the 11th Bengal Lancers and the 37th Dogras, who at night frequently patrol the lines on the *qui vive* for the common enemy; the Martini-Henry of the Native Infantry being perhaps more sought after by rifle thieves than our more complicated magazine. "E," "F," "G" and "H" companies have taken up their quarters near the

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guard-room, south of the barracks; the bungalows at the north, which report hath are the most exposed to *lootwallah* attacks, being at present left vacant until the arrival of the right wing from Mian Mir.

* * * * * *

The station time here is regulated by a gun situated in front of our guard-room, which is fired at noon and at 9-30 at night. Private Patterson, "G" Company, is the gunner.

* * * * * *

A draft to consist of two officers—Lieutenant Richardson and 2nd Lieutenant Elphinstone, two sergeants, two corporals and 116 privates—is at present being prepared by the home battalion to complete our strength, and sails for India on the 12th December. In all we may expect an addition of 180 men from the Ninety-First during the coming trooping season; another draft to make up this number probably leaving Aldershot later on in the year.

* * * * * *

Although the Regimental Football Team has been entered to compete for the Punjab Army Cup, no attempt has as yet been made to train them. Fortunately we have been lucky enough to draw a bye in the first round, but no time should be lost in choosing a team and steadily practising. At the present time there are many difficulties to overcome, as most of the likely players are at Mian Mir, whilst Private Maclaren, who has captained the team since we have been in India, goes home this season, and there will be no little difficulty in filling his place; several others of less note, but who have given valuable assistance in many hard-fought games, will also be leaving us; and altogether the executive will need great discrimination in choosing a new eleven that may be worthy of our former prowess in the football field.

* * * * * *

Our old friend "FORAGE CAP" has this to say in the *Glasgow Evening News* of 28th October:—

The most gratifying paragraph in the *Thin Red Line* for August, and which came to hand last week, contains the news that no deaths had occurred in the regiment during the month of July. The Ninety-Third go to Nowshera, which is about 26 miles from Peshawar, and it is anticipated that their march of something like 280 miles from Mian Mir will occupy about five weeks. It is expected that New Year's Day, 1896, will find our friends of the Ninety-Third on the road to Nowshera. We shall wish them a "Guid New Year" when it comes; meantime, we hope that their present clean sheet of health may continue.

On joining the Ninety-Third men on Balaclava Day in the Trades' Hall, it was a pleasure to find that there was a stronger turnout than usual of Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans. It was the fact that he was unable, through illness, to travel that prevented General Sir John Ewart being present, and his absence was certainly a disappointment to those who had travelled many miles to see him, and to join their comrades in giving him a hearty welcome back to his own old corps, of which he is now Colonel-in-Chief. However, Colonel Nightingale, who seems to be the never-failing backbone of the Ninety-Third Regimental Association, was at his post in the chair, and he was supported by Colonel Trotter, lately commanding the regiment in India, Major Fullarton, Captain Campbell of Kilberry, and Lieutenant M'Rae of the Depôt at Paisley. Sergeant-Major Motion from Row, who has not been present at the gathering for two or three years, occupied the vice-chair; Sergeant-Major Smith called the roll. Colour-Sergeant Simpson made a very good speech in which he did manly justice to the "Old Corps and Officers Past and Present"; and Sergeant-Major Allan (Seventy-Second Highlanders) responded in a neat fashion for "Kindred Associations," which was given by Sergeant-Major Smith. It should be mentioned that Miss Simpson pleased everyone at the piano.

The meeting, like all gatherings of the Ninety-Third, was full of the spirit of comradeship. The gallant Chairman read a telegram received from Aberdeen, where the men of the Ninety-Third Association in the north were holding Balaclava Day.: and in alluding to the absence of General Sir John Ewart, Colonel Nightingale reminded his hearers that General Ewart insisted upon living under canvas all the time in the Crimea when he might have lived in a hut. He thus contracted a cold that had never left him. So far as the old corps in India is concerned, Colonel Trotter fetched the enthusiasm of the men in the hall when he said that if they had seen the Ninety-Third about 1,000 strong, as he had seen them just before leaving India, they would have been convinced that they were a very fine combination of "chips from the old block."

The Sergeant-Major of the Gordon Highlanders at Maryhill is not an orator, but the few remarks he made at the Balaclava anniversary in the Trades' Hall were happily conceived and very neatly put. He had a warm reception,

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A great many trophies found their way to this country at the end of the war in the Crimea. Rather an interesting story belongs to a small bugle which I had in my hand on Friday night. It was taken from a Russian on 9th September 1855, at the capture of the Redan, by Drummer William Fulton, of the Ninety-Third Highlanders. Young Fulton, who is now a smart looking, grey-haired veteran, has had his portrait taken along with a photograph of the bugle. The bugle itself was retained by A. S. Leith Hay, C.B., then colonel of the Ninety-Third; but the gallant officer, I understand, has made such arrangements that, in the event of his death, this small but precious trophy of war will be handed over to the veteran Fulton, whose temerity and pluck gave him possession of the bugle. It is worthy of note that Fulton had the honour of receiving a few healthy swear words from the lips of the gallant Sir Colin Campbell, who met him returning from the enemy's lines, where, of course, without orders, he had no right to be.

* * * * * *

"The dinner of the Ninety-Third Sutherland Highlanders," says a correspondent, "held on Balaclava night in the Trades' Hall, Glasgow, was more numerously attended this year than ever, nearly 200 members meeting on the occasion. Much disappointment was felt at the absence, through illness, of our new Colonel, Sir John Ewart; and several of the old Crimean veterans recalled to mind the fact that Sir John, when he dined with them a few years ago, recollected, not only their faces and names, but also their regimental numbers. Accounts of the meeting of the Association and a *résumé* of some of the speeches appeared in the local papers and the *Scotsman* of the 28th October."

* * * * * *

It is not the case, as reported in some of our contemporaries in India and at home (we reproduce the remarks from the *Pioneer* on the subject), that Colonel Trotter has accepted the command of the Ayr district. His name has, we believe, been noted for an appointment, but not in connection with Ayr, which has been given to an officer of the Territorial Regiment who applied for it.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant N. Malcolm has passed in subjects (*c*) and (*d*) promotion (distinguished in field fortifications).

* * * * * *

2nd Lieutenant J. L. Stewart, Unattached List, has passed in Hindustani by the Higher Standard.

General Sir John Alexander Ewart, K.C.B.

(From the "Celtic Monthly.")

—o—

GENERAL Sir John Ewart, the present Colonel of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, was born on the 11th June 1821 in Her Majesty's Sixty-Seventh Regiment, of which his father, the late Lieutenant-General John Frederick Ewart, C.B., was at that time the Lieutenant-Colonel. He was educated at the Royal Military College of Sandhurst, and in May 1838 passed out at the head of the list, obtaining, at the same time, the prize for general merit and good conduct, and also a special certificate signed by the Board of Examination. General Sir George Murray, G.C.B., who was then Colonel of the Forty-Second Royal Highlanders, applied for his appointment to that regiment, but there being no vacancy he was on the 27th July 1838 gazetted to an ensigncy, without purchase, in the Thirty-Fifth Royal Sussex Regiment, the depôt of which was stationed at Stirling Castle, where he joined. In 1840 he embarked for the Island of Mauritius, serving in that colony until 1843, and again from 1846 till 1848, in which year he became Captain and exchanged to the Ninety-Third Sutherland Highlanders. Whilst in the Thirty-Fifth he for some time commanded the Light Company, and was for several years Captain of the cricket eleven.

On September 1848 he joined the Ninety-Third Highlanders at Stirling Castle, the regiment which had just returned from Canada being quartered at Stirling, Perth and Dundee. After remaining for four years in Scotland it was moved to England, and in February 1854 received sudden orders to embark for Malta, together with three battalions of the Guards and several other regiments. War with Russia having been declared it proceeded on to Turkey, landing at Gallipoli on the 11th April 1854, and at Varna on the 15th June, for the purpose of assisting the Turks, then besieged at Selistria by the Russians; the latter, however, on hearing of the arrival of the British and French troops at once raised the siege and retired. The invasion of the Crimea was then decided on, and on the 7th September the combined expedition sailed, a sight which will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it. The British Infantry had been formed into five Divisions,—the first, which was commanded by His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, consisting of three battalions of Guards and the three Highland Regiments (Forty-Second, Seventy-Ninth, and Ninety-Third). On the 14th September the landing of the troops was effected about eight miles south of Eupatoria, and on the 19th the allies, consisting of 27,000 British, 23,000 French, and 8,000 Turks commenced their march towards Sebastopol.

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The battle of Alma took place on the 20th September, the Russians occupying a very strong position on the heights beyond the river, strengthened by two earth-works, both heavily armed. The Light Division, under Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown, assisted by a portion of the 2nd Division, endeavoured to storm the principal field, but were unfortunately driven back by the heavy fire. The Guards and Highlanders then advanced in line, the former capturing the field-work, and the latter storming the heights to its right. At 5 o'clock the fighting was all over and the Russians in full retreat, the loss of the Ninety-Third being one officer (Ensign Abercromby) killed and 52 non-commissioned officers and men killed and wounded. In this battle Sir John Ewart, who was at the time a Captain, had the scabbard of his claymore broken by a rifle ball. He was subsequently present at the battles of Balaclava and Inkerman, and throughout the siege of Sebastopol, accompanying the Ninety-Third on the expedition to Kertch and Yenikale, and being present with them at the two assaults upon Sebastopol made on 18th June and 8th September 1855. The Highland Regiments were not present at Inkerman, being at that time employed in the defence of Balaclava; but Sir John Ewart, who had passed through the Staff College, having been appointed a Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, was present at that battle on horseback, and was riding with Lord Raglan and the staff when a shell burst in their midst, killing the horses of Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon, Assistant Quartermaster-General, and Captain Somerset, Aide-de-Camp, and mortally wounding General Strangways, who commanded the British Artillery.

On the termination of the war Sir John Ewart, who had previously been promoted to the rank of Major, was made a Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, and was one of four officers of the Ninety-Third who received the French Legion of Honour and Turkish Order of the Mejidie, and one of the three officers of the Ninety-Third who received the Piedmontese Silver Medal inscribed with the words "Al valore militare," he having served throughout the entire campaign without being absent from duty for a single day. He was for some little time in command of the regiment during the siege in consequence of the absence of the other three field officers.

Whilst acting as a Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General he executed a survey of the whole country between Balaclava and the Russian defences, being repeatedly under fire whilst so employed, and was with the Ninety-Third when they did duty for two months in the trenches after their return from Kertch.

Sir John remained in the Crimea until the very last, and on returning to England in July 1856, after peace had been proclaimed, was stationed at Aldershot and Dover until June 1857, when the regiment was placed under orders for China, forming part of an expedition sent for the purpose of attacking Canton. On the arrival at the Cape of Good Hope the destination of the Ninety-Third was suddenly changed to India in consequence of the breaking out of the great Mutiny of the native troops, and on reaching Calcutta the regiment was pushed on hurridly to Cawnpore with a view to a rescue of the ladies and children besieged in the Residency of Lucknow: for although Havelock and Outram had fought their way with the Seventy-Eighth Highlanders and one or two other regiments into Lucknow in the month of September, they were unable to make the rescue complete, and became themselves also besieged.

On November 2nd Sir John was engaged with two companies of the Ninety-Third in an attack upon the fortified village of Banterah, and on the 5th was second-in-command of a force sent to convey provisions and ammunition to the Alambagh, where Havelock had left his sick and baggage under a strong guard: this was successfully accomplished after being again engaged with the enemy.

On the 14th, Sir Colin Campbell having arrived, the relieving force, consisting of about 4,000 men, advanced from the Alambagh and captured the Dilkusha and Martinière, the fort of Jalalabad having been taken possession of the previous day, when Sir John Ewart commanded the brigade of Infantry sent to attack it. He was also given command of the rear guard, consisting of three squadrons of cavalry, a troop of horse artillery and 500 infantry, detailed to protect the whole of the baggage and provisions during Sir Colin's advance on the 14th. This he effected without the loss of a single cart, after beating off the enemy.

The storming of the Secunderbagh took place on the 16th November, when Sir John Ewart (then Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel) commanded the seven companies of the Ninety-Third which took part in it, the remaining three being engaged under Lieutenant-Colonel Leith-Hay in the capture of a village and the king's stables. There were no ladders, but a small breach having been made in the wall of the building by one of the heavy guns, an entrance was effected; the hole, however, being only large enough to admit one at a time. The enemy were taken by surprise, but those who got in first had to fight for their lives, and Lieutenant-Colonel Ewart had his bonnet shot off his head by a volley fired at a distance of only ten yards, afterwards receiving two sword cuts in a personal encounter with two native officers who were defending a colour, which he succeeded in capturing.

The main entrance gate and a large window, protected by iron bars, having been at last forced, the rest of the

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stormers rushed in, and in a short time about 2,000 of the rebels lay dead, no quarter being given on account of the horrible barbarities perpetrated at Cawnpore by order of the scoundrel Nana Sahib.

The Shah Nujjeef and other buildings were then stormed and taken, and the relief of the Residency effected, the women, children, sick and wounded being all withdrawn on the night of the 19th, and the troops under Havelock and Outram, together with Sir Colin's force, retiring to the Martinière on the night of the 22nd.

To the great grief of everyone, Sir Henry Havelock died on the 24th November, and Sir Colin Campbell then decided to leave Outram with 4,000 men in front of Lucknow whilst he himself escorted the women, children, sick, and wounded to Cawnpore. The Ninety-Third accompanied him, starting on the 27th, the force of 3,000 men having to protect an enormous number of helpless creatures whom it was necessary to carry and get across the Ganges as soon as possible.

General Wyndman had been left in command at Cawnpore, as that place was threatened by the mutineers of the Gwalior contingent, who had effected a junction with some of the soldiers of Nana Sahib, and now endeavoured to gain possession of the bridge of boats so as to prevent the re-crossing of Sir Colin; and on the very day the latter marched from Lucknow made a fierce and determined attack upon Cawnpore, driving Wyndham into the small fort.

Campbell had halted for the night at Bunnee, but in consequence of the heavy firing heard in the direction of Cawnpore, he made a forced march of about forty miles on the 28th, and just managed to arrive in time to save the bridge, the Ninety-Third being the first regiment sent across under cover of the heavy guns belonging to the Naval Brigade. On the night of the 29th, the women, children, and invalids were all got safely across the Ganges, and Sir Colin disposed his force the best way he could to protect them until reinforcements should arrive from Allahabad. It was in the performance of this duty that Sir John Ewart lost his left arm by a cannon shot on the 1st December, not far from the spot where his cousin, Colonel John Ewart, who commanded the 1st Bengal Native Infantry which mutinied, had been foully murdered, together with his wife and little girl, in the month of July.

When Ewart's left arm was shot away his right arm was in a sling from his wound at Lucknow, and he continued for some weeks in a very sad state, his life having at one time been given over. Possessing a strong constitution he eventually recovered, and after leaving Cawnpore was sent to England on sick leave. The death of poor Adrian Hope at the attack upon the fort at Rohya gave him his regimental Lieutenant-Colonelcy, and the Mutiny having been completely put down he exchanged with Colonel Stisted, of the Seventy-Eighth Highlanders, then on its passage home from India. He had been appointed a Companion of the Bath, and in April 1859 was further rewarded for his services by being made an Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, with the rank of full Colonel in the Army, a promotion which put him over the heads of about a hundred Lieutenant-Colonels.

He commanded the Rossshire Buffs until October 1864, and in the year 1872 was promoted to the rank of Major-General, shortly afterwards receiving the reward of £100 per annum granted for distinguished services.

After the relief of Lucknow he was strongly recommended by Brigadier-General the Hon'ble Adrian Hope, who commanded the Brigade, for the Victoria Cross, the names of three other officers of the Ninety-Third being also sent in at the same time; but Sir Colin Campbell, who had become full Colonel of the Regiment, declined to award more than one Cross, being probably afraid that he would be accused of favouring the Sutherland Highlanders. He therefore gave orders that the officers should assemble and elect the recipient. A mess meeting was held with the following result:—

Captain W. D. Stewart ...	...	18 votes.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Ewart	16	,,
Captain W. A. Cooper ...	...	5 ,,

One of the medical officers who was unable to attend the meeting stated that he should have voted for Ewart, who therefore only lost the Victoria Cross by one vote. Had he represented the matter, he would, doubtless, have been given the much-coveted decoration, but he has all along refused to do so, as he considers that he was no braver than the rest of his brother officers, and merely did his duty.

In the month of March 1877 Sir John Ewart was appointed to the command of the Allahabad Division, extending from Cawnpore to Segowlie, on the Nepaul frontier, a distance of about five hundred miles. This appointment he held until the 30th November 1879, when in consequence of his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant-General he had to leave India.

On the 12th January 1884 he became a full General on the active list, having previously been appointed Colonel of the Duke of Edinburgh's Wiltshire Regiment. The Colonelcy of the Ninety-Second Gordon Highlanders falling vacant, he was on the 12th March 1884 transferred to that regiment, and on the 30th June 1895 he was again transferred to the Colonelcy of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, which consists of the old Ninety-First and Ninety-Third. On the occasion of Her Majesty's

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Jubilee he was made a K.C.B. Sir John Ewart belongs to an old Border family, which in the 15th century moved into the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright. His residence, Craigh Clouch, is situated in Eskdale, about two miles from Langholm, and he is a Justice of the Peace for the county of Dumfries. He married in the year 1858 Frances, eldest daughter of John Spencer Stone, of Callingwood Hall, and two of his sons are Captains in the Seventy-Ninth Cameron Highlanders, another having been for some time in the Black Watch. He has, therefore, been closely connected with the five old kilted regiments - Forty-Second, Seventy-Eighth, Seventy-Ninth, Ninety-Second and Ninety-Third.

A Sprig of White Heather.

—o—

A New Year's Greeting.

"GOOD LUCK" is yours through all the year,
Through every kind of weather,
If you but keep—and hold it dear—
A sprig of Highland heather.

Some hold belief in antique rings,
Or wave a peacock feather:
This has a charm above all things—
A sprig of Highland heather.

In ancient days, when clans did fight
With shields of iron and leather,
Their real safety guard was *white*—
A sprig of Highland heather.

There is no song but binds a sigh
In sad sweet silken tether,
So binds us to the days gone by—
A sprig of Highland heather.

And whether we are thrown apart,
Or haply thrown together,
Oh! wear it gently on your heart—
A sprig of Highland heather.

Janie E. B. Macpherson,
In the *Celtic Monthly*.

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT the guard of honour was *cushi*.

That it wasn't required.

That the sports were a great success.

That "B" Company was "all there."

That they took a fair share of the prize money.

That it cost them 20 "rats."

That its Umballa manœuvre friends are back from Chitral.

That it marched past to their band.

That the D. S. Os. and medals were well deserved.

That its cousin is off to Nowshera.

That the sergeants have had their final hop.

That it wonders where all the ladies were.

That it wishes it was a piper.

That some T. E men are in a weak condition.

That a box full of matches is beyond their strength.

That it was "bags to go" on the 26th.

That some good men will be going Bombay way this season.

What its cousin at Nowshera says:—

That the march was toek.

That the train wasn't.

That neither was the halt.

That it is out of the frying-pan into the fire.

That it got the pick of the barracks.

That they needed disinfecting.

That the pen is mightier than the sword.

That it hears it won a medal for a certain non-commissioned officer.

That being "prepared to swear" is a great resource.

Surgeon-General Munro, one of our regimental historians, tells us that "in 1850-51 there were so many Highlanders in the ranks who could not speak and did not understand English, that the Secretary of State for War sanctioned fourpence a day as extra pay to four corporals to drill these men and to explain to them in Gaelic the English words of command."

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The Wing Sports.

—o—

AFTER being twice postponed the games arranged for the right wing eventually came off on the afternoon of the 7th instant. The ground chosen was that between the Sergeants' Mess and the road leading to Mian Mir East Railway Station; a course of about four-and-a-half laps to the mile for running the flat races being marked out by flags, whilst within this enclosure the other events were decided. The spectators were relegated to the outside of the course, a convenient ditch on the barrack side making a boundary, and doing duty also for seating accommodation for the troops who lined it in force; on the other side the roadway was fringed with ekkas and tom-toms and a large sprinkling of natives. At the south end the flagstaff was erected facing the officers' enclosure, opposite which the races finished, and the feats of strength, tug-of-war and dancing took place, and which was very prettily decorated for the occasion, whilst close to it was the bandstand, where the musicians of the 32nd Pioneers, lately returned from Gilgit and Chitral, discoursed sweet melodies. The Sergeants' Mess tent was at this corner also, and had seats arranged for their visitors and friends. The sports commenced soon after half-past three, and without any hurrying or flagging of events the last item was finished by dusk. Major-General Sir G. B. Wolseley, Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, who was accompanied by Mrs. Fatherstonhaugh, just arrived from home, were among the visitors, of whom quite a large gathering were present, and the General remarked to Major Campbell the fit appearance of his men after the effects of the summer. All the officers of the wing were present, and officiated either as judges or starters, and the work done by Sergeant Symcox, assisted by Sergeants Middleby and Maxwell, cannot be overestimated, and to their efforts the almost unprecedented success of the gathering must be considered due.

Business started with the place kick, which was won by Private Duffin, "B" Company; his first kick never being challenged, Corporal McKimm, "B" Company, was a good second. Bayonet *versus* Bayonet followed this, and was won by Private Cooke, "D" Company, though in justice to Private Auld, who is perhaps the best man with this weapon in the battalion, it must be said that he was greatly handicapped in the second round, for he had only just finished running third in the two-hundred and twenty yards race when he was called upon to meet his opponent. The "two-twenty" race went, as was expected, to Private Adcock, "B" Company, Privates Singleton, "B," and Auld, "A," following in. Adcock won comparatively easily.

Putting the shot, which was a twenty-four pound one, went to Private A. Milne, "B" Company, who was also successful with the hammer later on. Private Brydone, "D" Company, was second, and Private Emmerson, "A" Company, third, with the shot. whilst Privates Brydone and Logie were second and third, respectively, with the hammer. Private J. Milne, "A" Company, was best with the single sticks, whilst Corporal Johnstone secured second.

The tug-of-war was by heats, but only three teams having entered "B" secured a bye, and "A" and "D" Companies faced each other in the first round. Both teams appeared to be in very fair condition, "D" being the "cleaner," though not so heavy, which was proved when the strain was taken, as "A," with their training in addition, walked away, though perhaps slowly, with their opponents and pulled the last man over the line without receiving a serious check.

Things were quite lively with tilting the bucket, and this sport caused great amusement. One or two lucky individuals managed to pass the bamboo through the hole, but the majority missed, and the usual deluging was all they received for their pains. The fun was, however, kept up for a long time; the cold shower baths they received in no way seeming to damp the competitors' ardour.

There were quite a large number of entries for the half mile, which was capitally contested until about one hundred yards from home, when Private Adcock broke away and won easily, Private Singleton following as second, and Private Johnson, "C" Company, third. The track was by no means an ideal one for bicycling, and in the bicycle race no records were broken, nor fortunately bones, though some buck-jumping was noticeable when the riders tried the outside of the course. The race was nearly two miles (eight laps), and there were only three entries, all from "B" Company, who kept together until near home, when Private Milne sprinted and won by about twenty yards—second and third being close together. The Lloyd-Lindsay competition followed this, and again only "B" Company had entered with one team from the Fort. A scratch team, however, was raised from the same company on the ground to compete, but the prize went to the first team under Corporal McKimm, who took the hurdles capitally and did the distance in excellent time.

The final tug-of-war followed this, and was a much better pull than the first "B" Company's team, although a light one, being well-trained, and contesting every inch of the ground. When the strain was taken, both teams were firm for almost a minute, when "A" Company

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commenced to gain ground, and steadily persevered to the end amidst great enthusiasm. The pull was a very good one throughout, and both teams were well trained, neither appearing to have suffered much by the late hot weather.

The following were the events:—

PLACE KICK.

Private Duffin, "B" Company		1
Corporal McKimm, "B" Company		2

BAYONET *v.* BAYONET.

Pte. Auld,	"A" Coy., beat	Pte. Milne,	"A" Coy.		
Lce.-Cpl. Munn,	"A" " " "	Grozier,	"D" "		
Pte. Cooke,	"D" " " "	Hooper,	"D" "		
" Findlay,	"A" " a bye.				
" Cooke,	"D" " beat	Lce.-Cpl. Munn,	"A" "		
" Findlay,	"A" " "	Private Auld,	"A" "		
" Cooke ...	(1) beat	Pte. Findlay ...	(2)		

220 YARDS' FLAT RACE.

Private J. Adcock,	"B" Coy., ...		1
" R. Singleton,	"B" "		2
" J. Auld,	"A" "		3

PUTTING HEAVY SHOT.

Private A. Milne,	"B" Coy.		1
" J. Brydone,	"D" "		2
" A. Emmerson,	"A" "		3

SINGLE STICKS.

Corpl. Johnstone,	"B" Coy., beat	Sergt.-Mast. Tailor Blacklock, "B" Coy.
Sergt. Murdoch	"B" "	beat Lce.-Sergt Stonor, "B"
Private J. Milne,	"A" "	"Coy" a bye.
" J. Milne,		beat Sergt. Murdoch.
Corporal Johnstone...		a bye.
Private J. Milne ..	(1)	beat Copl. Johnstone ... (2).

THROWING HEAVY HAMMER (WITHOUT TURN).

Private A. Milne,	"B" Coy.		1
" A. Brydone,	"D" "		2
" R. Logie,	"B" "		3

TUG-OF-WAR (FIRST HEAT).

"A" Company beat "D" Company.
"B" " a bye.

TILTING THE BUCKET.

Ptes. Findlay,	"A" Coy., and Goff, "B" Coy.		1
" Cooke and Easton,	"D" "		2

HALF MILE RACE.

Pte. Adcock,	"B" Coy.		1
" Singleton,	"B" "		2
" Johnson,	"C" "		3

BICYCLE RACE.

Pte. A. Milne,	"B" Coy.		1
Corpl. C. Johnstone,	"B" "		2
Lce-Sergt. Stonor,	"B" "		3

LLOYD-LINDSAY RACE.

"B" Coy., 1st team,	Corpl. McKimm		1
"B" " 2nd "	Sergt. Murdoch		2

TUG-OF-WAR (FINAL HEAT).

"A" Coy. beat "B" Coy.

TUG-OF-WAR TEAMS.

"*A*" *Company.*—Sergeants Middleby and McCulloch Corporal Matthew, Lance-Corporal Munn, and Privates Emmerson, Auld, Hyndmarsh, McFarlane, J. Mitchell (3805), McAllister; Trainer and Coach, Private T. Johnstone.

"*B*" *Company.*—Lance-Corporal J. Reid and Privates Logie, Austin, D. Stewart, Milne, Coutts, Whitecross, McWhirter, Archer and Duffin; Coach, Sergeant Murdoch.

"*D*" *Company.*—Privates Brydone, McFarlane, Trotter, Stevenson, Seffen, Drummond, Devereux, Glossop, Shaw and Martin; Coach, Lance-Corporal Potter.

Right Wing Notes at Mian Mir.

—o—

THE chief event of the month was of course the Wing games, which came off on Thursday, the 7th November, and were a great success. As a full account appears in another column, we need not particularize here; suffice it to say that all the events were most keenly contested, and that few of the competitors seemed to be in any way effected by the enervating effects of the late hot weather. "B" Company, who were at the fort, and evidently found plenty of time for training, carried off a very fair share of the prize money, and Captain Robinson appeared to be delighted with his Company's success.

The head-quarters wing from Dalhousie arrived in the rest-camp station on Sunday morning, the 10th November, *en route* to Nowshera, for which place they left by troop-train on the following evening to take over our new quarters. Everyone was very busy during these two days, as everything that could be possibly taken in the way of heavy baggage was sent by rail, and the messes and institutes at Nowshera being very poorly furnished, Colonel Fetherstonhaugh decided to take all regimental property that could possibly be taken to make things comfortable in the new station. All time-expired men were also transferred to the right wing, and will remain at Mian Mir until detailed to proceed home, whilst men of the right half-companies who had been to Dalhousie for the summer also rejoined their companies, and those who with the left half who had summered on the plains journeyed to Nowshera. Major Napier remained and took over command of the wing from Major Campbell.

"B" Company having returned from the fort on the 8th November, being relieved by "C" Company, commenced their annual course of musketry on the 11th, the members of the Company Rifle Club holding a wappenschaw on the following day, which was a most successful one, over one hundred rupees being expended in prizes.

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On the 13th all the troops in garrison paraded in review order on the maidan in front of the guard-room, the occasion being the presentation of D. S. O. to Major Borrodaile, and medals to some native officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 34th Pioneers. Major-General Sir G. Wolseley, K.C.B., made the presentations, and alluded in most stirring terms to the march of Colonel Kelly and his men from Gilgit to Chitral and the gallant deeds for which the medals were awarded. The troops then formed up for marching past, the band of the 32nd Pioneers playing "Barley Rigs" as the wing stepped past the saluting point.

On Monday, 18th November, the General made his farewell inspection of the wing, which paraded at 7 A.M., and awaited his arrival in review order. General Wolseley was received with the general salute, and after being inspected the wing was put through the firing exercise by Major Campbell, and the bayonet exercise by the Acting Adjutant, Lieutenant J. Campbell, at all of which the General expressed himself well pleased; whilst he also remarked the general appearance of the men, and said he would do his utmost, with the approval of the medical officer, to detain the wing until January.

On the following Wednesday, the garrison again paraded on the maidan, this time to witness the presentation of the C. B. to Colonel Kelly and the D. S. O. to his Adjutant. The parade was formed soon after seven o'clock, the 24th and 46th Field Batteries, Royal Artillery, 19th Bengal Lancers, 32nd Pioneers, and ourselves being in line, and receiving the General with the customary salute. After the inspection the troops formed a hollow square, and the General, after again referring to the relief of Chitral and the distinguished conduct of Colonel Kelly and his men, dismounted and made the presentations. The usual march past followed, our pipers, who had been transferred to the wing when the headquarters journeyed to Nowshera, returning the compliment of the previous parade and playing the Pioneers, whose band was on furlough, past the saluting point.

The same evening the sergeants gave their farewell dance to the inhabitants of Mian Mir. Dancing commenced soon after nine, and was kept up until early the following morning. Unfortunately the fair sex were not in such numbers as might have been expected, considering the number of invitations issued, and the gentlemen, consequently, outnumbered the ladies to a large degree. General Sir G. Wolseley and all the officers of the wing accepted the invitations. The Lahore Police Band were in attendance, and played an excellent dance selection, Lance-Corporals Robb and Anderson supplying the pipe music for the Highland dances.

Party "E" from Dalhousie, the Border Regiment, arrived in the rest-camp on Thursday *en route* to Multan, and the sergeants, as usual, were entertained in the Wing Sergeants' Mess.

"B" and "D" Company were at field firing on the 29th November, and "A" Company completes this part of their training on the 2nd instant. All is at present at sixes and sevens, and the arrival of the Somerset Light Infantry, who are due on the 2nd, is anxiously looked forward to. "C" Company will then return from the fort, and the right wing will be complete and ready for the march, for by the 6th December 1895 Mian Mir will be but a faded memory of the past, and for three or four weeks at least the Grand Trunk Road once more our home.

—o—

CANISTER SHOT.—An Indian prince of the name of Moolraj was besieging some English troops, and finding his bullets coming to an end, suddenly bethought him of a pile of tin canisters which he had somewhere captured, and which, as is usual, he rammed whole into his cannon, supposing that the tins were well freighted with canister-shot. What was the amazement of the besieged the next morning to find that old Moolraj was firing into their camp potted lobsters, jugged hare, anchovy and bloater-paste, venison, pickled herrings, nicely cooked grouse, chow-chow, and all the other delicacies of the season.

The canisters contained nothing but hermetically-sealed provisions, and the storm of victuals lasted three days.

———:o:———

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The Flag We Love.

—o—

SHOULD foes assail the flag we love,
Should danger e'er be nigh,
Should England e'er require us
Upon the field to die;
Should stern duty ever call
And bid us take our place,—
Right gallantly would we respond
Britannia's foes to face.
When Britain's flag is flying,
When Britain's flag's unfurled,
Unaided, if required,
We'll stand against the world.

Beneath our coats of red, there beat
Hearts that are brave and true,
With hearts of oak,—aye, hearts of steel,—
Beneath the sailor's blue.
Proud floats our flag, the Union Jack,
On land and on the sea,
Proclaiming to the universe
That Albion is free.
When Britain's flag is flying,
When Britain's flag's unfurled,
Unaided, if required,
We'll stand against the world.

G. W.

———: o :———

Football at Mian Mir.

—o—

"A" COMPANY *v.* 24TH FIELD BATTERY, ROYAL ARTILLERY.

This match was played on the Artillery ground and was a very good game, resulting in a win for our representatives by 1 goal to *nil*. "A" Company team was as follows:—

Privates McClure (*Goal*); Lavan and McCormack (*Back*); McAllister, McIntosh and Brown (*Half-backs*); Wilson, Grey, McManus, Faulkner and McDonald (*Forwards*).

RIGHT WING *v.* ROYAL ARTILLERY.

This match was played on the 21st November on the home ground, the Artillery team, picked from two batteries, losing by 5 goals to 1. The game was a very good one throughout, our Forwards combining capitally and quite overmatching their opponents. Team:—Drummer Gracie, "C" (*Goal*); Private Scott, "B," and Corporal McKimm, "B" (*Backs*); Privates Mitchell "A," W. Wilson, "A," and Singleton "B" (*Half-backs*); J. Wilson, "A," McDonald, "A," McManus, "A," Glen, "B," and Walls, "B" (*Forwards*).

RIGHT WING *v.* TIME-EXPIRED DETAILS.

Several of the regimental players of the Twenty-First, Twenty-Fifth and Gordon Highlanders being in the rest-camp during the 26th November, the opportunity was taken of challenging them, and a fairly strong team from these regiments met the wing team on that date. The visitors, although fairly strong, did not understand each other's play sufficiently to combine, and the game resulted in a win for the wing by one *goal* to *nil*. Our team was as follows:—Drummer Gracie (*Goal*); Privates Scott and McCormack (*Backs*); Corporal McKimm and Privates McLaren, and Singleton (*Half-backs*); Lieutenant Malcolm and Privates Wilson, Duffin, Glen and Walls (*Forwards*).

Sir Colin Campbell and the Ninety-Third.

—o—

SAYS Colonel W. W. Knollys, who was Captain in the regiment during the Mutiny, writing of the late Sir Colin Campbell in the *Realm*:—

"I can answer for one feature in his character—the love which he entertained for the Ninety-Third Highlanders, and the devotion which they gave him in return. I can speak of this with authority, for I joined the regiment in 1858, and remained in it twenty years. I remember when, immediately after the Indian Mutiny, we were quartered near Simla, Lord Clyde paid the station a visit. The men—hard-headed Scotchmen though they were—showed the utmost delight at seeing him. On his part he singled out some of the old soldiers, referred to his old acquaintance with Donald or Fergus, and asked after his health, to the almost childish delight of the man singled out for notice.

"What the Old Guard were to Napoleon, the Ninety-Third were to Colin Campbell, and I am sure that, so great was the fanatic devotion of the regiment to him, had he placed himself at its head and given the order to advance to certain death, the dressing would have been perfect, and not a man would have lost touch with his neighbour."

———: o :———

Our First Honour.

—o—

THE following is a copy of a Regimental Order, dated 14th December 1835, sixty years ago, on which date the regiment was granted the honour of bearing "Cape of Good Hope" upon its colours:—

"The commanding officer has much pleasure in communicating to the regiment the following copy of a letter received from the Adjutant-General to the Forces:—

'HORSE GUARDS:
10th December 1895.

SIR,

I have the honour to acquaint you, by direction of the General Commander-in-Chief, that His Majesty has been graciously pleased to permit the Ninety-Third Highland Regiment to bear on its colours and appointments the words "Cape of Good Hope," in commemoration of the gallantry displayed by the regiment at the capture of the Cape of Good Hope on the 8th January 1806.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient, humble Servant,
JOHN MACDONALD,
Adjutant-General.

OFFICER COMMANDING
Ninety-Third Highlanders,
Dublin.'"

—o—

"B" Company is, of course, sure to be there,' said a spectator at the Wing sports; but his mangled form defied recognition, and is at present unclaimed by any Company.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

Taken on the paid establishment of his rank :—

No. 3088, Lance-Corporal A. Kettles, "C" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 3648, Private J. Latchford, "G" Company; No. 4716, Private Davidson, and No. 4602, Private Currie, "G" Company.

To be Hospital Matron.—Mrs. Miller, wife of Corporal Miller, "F" Company, has been appointed Matron of the Station Family Hospital.

EMPLOYMENT.

In Coffee Shop.—No. 4232, Private T. Doyle, "G" Company.

To be Pioneer.—No. 2534, Private J. Archer, "B" Company, and No. 3432, Private A. Gilfin, "H" Company.

TRANSFERS.

To 2nd Seaforth Highlanders.—No. 4748, Private W. Maxwell.

From "F" to "G" Company.—Sergeant J. Irvine.

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete 21 years with the Colours.

No. 1645, Sergeant J. Pringle, "C" Company.
„ 1525, Private P. Grant, "E" „

To complete 12 years with the Colours—.

No. 2735, Sergeant J. Tyndall, "E" Company.
„ 3133 „ W. D. Murdoch, "B" „
„ 2981, Lance-Sergeant W. Scott, "E" „
„ 2886 Corporal W. Miller, "F" „
„ 2265, Lance-Corporal J. Murphy, "F" „
„ 4945 „ „ R. Wright, "C" „
„ 2937, Private H. Bryson, "H" „
„ 4868 „ H. Gifford, "A" „
„ 3378 „ F. Lynch, "D" „

MUSKETRY CERTIFICATES.

The following Non-Commissioned Officers have been granted certificates for proficiency in musketry :—

Corporal G. Forbes, "F" Company.
Lance-Corporal Adams, "E" „
„ „ Ward, "G" „
„ „ Fitchett, "E" „
„ „ Ballantyne, "E" „
„ „ Keeble, "H" „
„ „ Gilbert, "H" „

TELEGRAPHY CERTIFICATE.

Granted a certificate for proficiency in telegraphy :—
No. 2980, Private J. McGregor, "H" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following have been granted 2d. per diem :—
"B" Company.
No. 3333, Private R. Singleton.
"F" Company.
No. 3344, Drummer A. Lawrie.
The following have been granted 1d. per diem :—
"E" Company.
No. 2768, Lance-Corporal D. McRae.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

CASUALS (MIAN MIR).

			£	s.	d.
No. 2981,	Lce.-Sergt. W. Scott,	"E" Company...	0	15	0
„ 3522,	Private T. Huckle,	"H" „ ...	0	9	6
„ 2902	„ A. Wilkie,	"H" „ ...	0	5	6
„ 3423	„ W. Glossop,	"H" „ ..	0	4	6
„ 4047	„ J. Williams,	"E" „ ...	0	4	6

Commander of Best Shooting Section.
Lance-Sergeant Scott, "E" Company.
Commander of Second Best Section.
Lance-Coporal Robinson, "H" Company.

CASUALS (DALHOUSIE).

			£	s.	d.
No. 3591,	Private R. Williams,	"E" Company	0	14	0
„ 4103	„ A. Dipper,	"G" „	0	13	0
„ 1580,	Lce.-Cpl. C. Brasenell,	"B" „	0	13	0

Commander of Best Shooting Section.
No. 2529, Sergeant D. Blair, "E" Company.
Commander of Second Best Section.
No. 3138, Lance-Corporal Fawcett, "E" Company.

"C" COMPANY.

			£	s.	d.
No. 2723,	Private J. Brown	...	0	16	0
„ 3358,	Lance-Corporal J. Dodds ...	...	0	12	0
„ 3356,	Private D. Black	...	0	9	0
„ 3123	„ W. Johnson	...	0	9	0
„ 4153	„ T. Sutton	...	0	6	0

Commander of Best Shooting Section.
No. 3358, Lance-Corporal J. Dodds.
Commander of Second Best Section.
No. 2760, Sergeant J. Gunn.

"E" COMPANY.

			£	s.	d.
No. 2911,	Private G. Foster	...	0	16	6½
„ 3071,	Lance-Sergeant Paton ...	...	0	10	0
„ 4630,	Lance-Corporal G. Duncan ...	...	0	8	0
„ 3464,	Private G. Gray	...	0	7	0
„ 2917	„ J. Barker	...	0	6	0
„ 3463	„ W. Wellington ...	...	0	5	7½
„ 4007	„ T. Neilson	...	0	4	11½
„ 3110	„ H. Reid	...	0	4	11½
„ 2931,	Corporal W. McNab	...	0	4	11½
„ 3425,	Private G. Lock	...	0	4	11½
„ 3150	„ T. Clark	...	0	4	11½
„ 3207	„ W. Gosling	...	0	4	11½
„ 3569	„ M. Hales	...	0	4	11½
„ 3459	„ E. Stanford	...	0	4	11½

Commander of Best Shooting Section.
No. 2045, Sergeant F. Meston 0 11 7½
Commander of Second Best Section.
No. 3071, Lance-Sergeant R. Paton 0 5 9½

INVALIDS.

The following having embarked for England on the 10th November 1895 are struck off the strength of the battalion :—

No. 4159, Pte. B. Begent. | No. 3516, Pte. H. Parish.
„ 3664, „ J. Bryan. | „ 2442, L.-Cpl. M. Jones.

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The King and the Seidlitz Powders.

—o—

ON the first consignment of Seidlitz Powders in the capital of Delhi, the monarch became deeply interested in the accounts of the refreshing box. A box was brought to the King in full court, and the interpreter explained to his Majesty how it should be used. Into a goblet he put the twelve blue, and having added water the king drank it off. This was the alkali, and the royal countenance showed no signs of satisfaction. It was then explained that in the combination of the two powders lay the luxury, and the twelve white powders were quickly dissolved, and as eagerly swallowed by his Majesty, with a shriek that will be remembered while Delhi is remembered among the kingdoms. The monarch rose, staggered, exploded, and in his full agonies screamed "Hold me down!" Then rushing from the throne, fell prostrate on the floor. There he lay during the long continued effervescence of the compound spurting like ten thousand pennyworths of Imperial pop, and believing himself in all the agonies of death—a melancholy and humiliating proof that kings are mortal.

———:o:———

To "Blowing up" a Scotchman.

—o—

IN blowing up the magazine in the old fortress of Sadat Khan at Lucknow, the following curious circumstance is thus stated to have occurred:—

"One house escaped, and also one Scotchman. The officer to whom the task of firing the train was entrusted thought that he was the last to leave the fort, but had said to one of the men, 'Wait for me,' and forgot to tell him where he was going. The poor man thought he was to wait during the explosion, and, in the true spirit of military discipline and obedience, actually did so, crouching in a corner of the square; and, happily, returned safe and sound to give his companions a grotesque description of the way in which it rained beams and stones, and bullocks and horses, for a quarter of an hour—for many of those luckless animals had been unavoidably left behind."

———:o:———

Editorial.

—o—

ONCE more the *Thin Red Line* makes its bow at the end of the old year; for with the exit of eighteen hundred and ninety-five our second volume closes, and it is with great regret we are forced to admit the improbability, unless, as Mr. Micawber says, "something turns up," of the new year ushering in Volume III. The very scanty literary support we received during the last twelve months made it a matter of great difficulty to produce our paper regularly, and as in the future we cannot, unfortunately, be assured of more assistance, we have decided, for the present at any rate, to discontinue the regimental news. It is nearly four years now since a paper was first published in the regiment, the initial number of the old *Sutherland News* being dated August 1892, and from small and modest beginnings the paper increased in literary merit and in circulation until perhaps, under the novelty of title and illustrations, its zenith was reached last year, when the circulation reached 1,500 copies. Since then, however, it has gradually been found more difficult to fill its pages with regimental matter; and although the circulation is at present large, and, what is more, is firm and steadily increasing, we find the strain upon our literary abilities too great, and unless, with the amalgamation of the battalion again at Nowshera, some one comes forward and relieves us of our labours, we shall be compelled, as we have before said, to discontinue the paper. We very much regret having to take this step, and hope that the *esprit de corps* among us may overcome the difficulty, but at present our readers may consider this the last number of the *Thin Red Line*, under the old *regime* at any rate, though we trust that under more able management a new paper may spring forth like the *Phœnix* of old from the ashes of this, its predecessor.

* * * * * *

With this number is published an Index to Volume II, for the convenience of subscribers who intend getting their volumes bound, whilst those who may wish to purchase bound volumes complete can do so by signifying their intention to the Manager, as only a small number have been reserved for binding, and for these a ready sale is anticipated. The price of the volumes, when bound, will be Rs. 7-8-0 for officers, and others not connected with the regiment, and Rs. 5 to men of the battalion.

* * * * * *

All our readers who intend purchasing a bicycle cannot do better than apply to the Bombay Cycle Agency who have in stock machines of all descriptions suitable for this country, and at the lowest possible prices. One special advantage of the Bombay Cycle Agency is that purchasers can, if they please, procure a machine on the hire purchase system at a trifling extra cost, paying by monthly instalments.

DEATHS.

BARKER.—At the Station Hospital, Dalhousie, on the 21st October, No 3196, Private H. Barker, "E" Company.

PRICE.—At the Station Hospital, Mian Mir, on the 25th November, No. 3874, Private T. Price, "A" Company, of dysentery.

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"Quis Separabit" (83rd Royal Irish Rifles).
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No 1
Vol 3

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COLONEL P. D. TROTTER.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 1—Vol. III. NOWSHERA,—APRIL 1896. Price, 2 Annas

SKIRLS

AFTER so long a silence it is necessary that the present notes should be considerably retrospective, so many events of interest having occurred since the publication of our last number. The regiment, except for the Fort Attock detachment, is now together once more, and it is quite a pleasure to see seven companies of respectable dimensions on parade.

* * * * * *

The right wing from Mian Mir, of whose journey an account appears in another column, arrived at Nowshera on New Year's Day in time to share in the festivities of the season.

* * * * * *

The first of January itself passed off in the usual manner, the Proclamation Day parade being held on the Brigade parade, which was knee deep in dust and anything but an ideal ground for reviews. The 11th Bengal Lancers, 38th Dogras and ourselves formed a brigade under Colonel Campbell of the Dogras, and the usual *feu de joie* and cheers were given,

* * * * * *

On the return of the battalion to barracks the customary New Year dinners were sat down to, "E," "F," "G," "H." Companies and the Band having excellent spreads and being largely reinforced from the wing from Mian Mir. The Band wound up the evening with a dance, which went off capitally, and the following day being Thursday was taken full advantage of to recoup exhausted energies.

* * * * * *

The previous evening "Hogmanay" passed quietly, the Band only, in the absence of the Pipes, playing in the New Year. In the Sergeants' Mess a Smoking Concert was held, most of the officers attending. A few speeches were made, and 1896 toasted in appropriate terms.

* * * * * *

On the 9th January "E" Company, made up to eighty-five rank and file, marched to Fort

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Attock under Captain McNeill and Lieutenant Marshall. The distance, over twenty miles, was covered in good form, there being few casualties, and the detachment relieved a company of the Rifle Brigade, which returned to Rawalpindi.

* * * * * *

Field days have been of weekly occurrence since the battalion's arrival, but all being more or less of a similar nature, it is quite unnecessary to particularise; to point out the very strong position occupied by the "Red" force on such a day, the expressive, though hardly polite, language used by the "Khaki" column in climbing a stiffish *khud* (for there are *khuds*, and very nasty ones too, at Nowshera), on several other occasions; or, yet again, how the garrison of Cherat was saved from an overwhelming force of Jowakis, Utman Khel and other border tribes represented by Dogras in mufti. The battalion has become remarkably expert in hill fighting with all this practice, and the field days, although severe, have always been interesting owing to the realism incidental to the surroundings.

* * * * * *

The draft, christened the "Guthris" as they arrived soon after the issue of the padded coat, detrained on the morning of the 13th January. Lieutenant Richardson, whose two years' duty at the depôt has expired, brought them out, and with him came 2nd Lieutenant Elphinstone, who should have joined the regiment nearly three years ago, but was then detained in hospital at Malta, and afterwards returned home. The draft consisted of Sergeants P. Campbell and J. Stewart, two Corporals and one hundred and sixteen men. Although all young soldiers, they are a very presentable addition to the battalion, and have remarkably clean defaulters' sheets.

The second reinforcement from home should join early this month, when our war strength will be completed.

* * * * * *

Brigadier-General Elles, commanding the Peshawar district, made his inspection of the battalion on the 14th, 15th and 24th of February. The first two days were devoted to drill and inspections. The final day was for manœuvre, the 38th Dogras being our opponents and holding a strong position in the hills to the south of Nowshera. The smartness with which the men negotiated the *khuds* and the excellent handling of "C" and "F" Companies was especially noticed by the General, who expressed himself so satisfied with all he had seen that the usual one thousand yards double, the favourite test and criterion of the fitness of a corps, was dispensed with.

* * * * * *

Some sports were held on the parade-ground on the 26th February, ten events being on the programme. The half battalion Tug-of-War went to the left half, owing, no doubt, to their better condition—the effect of having summered on the hills.

* * * * * *

On the following day there was a gymkhana on the race-course with seven events, of which Captain Cameron secured four.

* * * * * *

The football team left for Umballa on Saturday, 8th February, by the evening train, to compete for the Bengal-Punjab Army Cup, Lieutenant Maclean and Sergeant Middleby accompanying them. Unfortunately the Gordon Highlanders, the eventual winners, were met in the semi-final, and our team suffered defeat by one goal to *nil*. The Gordons, who had previously defeated the Twenty-Fifth and Highland Light Infantry, met the Somerset Light Infantry in the final, and thoroughly deserved their victory and possession of the Cup.

* * * * * *

Second Lieutenant Hyslop has passed in Subjects (*a*) and (*b*) for promotion.

* * * * * *

The Lower Standard Examination in Pushtu has been passed by Major C. Grant.

* * * * * *

The Sergeants of the right and left half battalions have met each other in the football field, the left half being victorious. The Corporals also measured their strength with their seniors, and succeeded in beating them by one goal to *nil*.

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The Sergeants also had a couple of Smoking Concerts during February, a musical "At Home" (to which the ladies were invited), when the newly introduced string band made its initial effort and gave a capital entertainment, and the usual Annual Dance, which took place soon after the return from the Peshawar manœuvres.

* * * * * *

Although the signalling inspection did not give such a high average as the most ambitious instructors could have wished, the points secured, 475·62, are very good, and the Inspector has rendered a most satisfactory report upon the signalling of the battalion.

* * * * * *

Since the battalion has been all together the competition for the football clock has been progressing, "F" Company being favourites for this trophy. The cricket league has, so far, not been started.

* * * * * *

"C" Company have had two wapenschaws, both being very successful, large amounts being distributed in prizes.

* * * * * *

A novel and startling experience in the shape of rather severe earthquake shock disturbed our slumbers about the 15th January. At first, the rocking sensation to those not thoroughly awakened suggested the motion of a ship at sea, until this idea was dispelled by the rumbling underground thunder and the rattling of the rafters overhead. Fragments of the ceiling falling as the rocking motion increased, seemed to suggest that under existing circumstances it would be safer outside, and this idea seemingly occurring simultaneously, a general exodus took place, some of the costumes adopted being ill-fitted to the inclemency of the weather.

"Lootwallahs" and "Fire" were shouted by a few whose nerves were more unsettled, while the sentries on the armourer's shop, evidently considering the disturbance an "unusual circumstance," turned out the guard in rather a startled treble.

Altogether the shock must have lasted about five minutes, and appears to have been felt over most of the Punjab. Fortunately little or no damage was done, the low and substantial bungalows being too well built, and after the disturbance had ceased sleep was resumed.

* * * * * *

The Government of India have decided to commence the manufacture of cordite in this country.

* * * * * *

At the forty-third annual festival of the *Commun Catach Ghlaschu*, which we translate for our non-Gaelic readers, the Glasgow Sutherland Association, the Chairman and President, after mentioning that at such social gatherings it was usual to let the "county's vain glory" run loose for a short time, continued by saying he might be allowed to remind the south country friends who were with them that that famous regiment, the Ninety-Third Highlanders, was raised in Sutherlandshire and the adjoining county. More than three-fourths of the number were Sutherland men. This was in the year 1800, and the strength of the regiment was put at 600. Each recruit who enrolled his name was allowed to return to his ordinary occupation until it was announced from the Parish Church that he was wanted. When the announcement came every man of the 600 obeyed the summons, without one single exception. Of this circumstance, he considered they might well be proud, as there were no doubt many present in the hall who, like himself, had an ancestor in that 600.

This allusion by the President of the Sutherland Association to a part of our regimental history,—of which, perhaps, all are most proud —before a north country audience, will, it is hoped, not be without due effect upon the likely youngsters of Sutherland and Caithness, who in its cumbrous territorial designation seem to have forgotten the very existence of their county regiment.

* * * * * *

From the *Glasgow Evening News* we take the following:—

DEATH OF A CRIMEAN VETERAN.—Walter Nicol, who fought at Alma and Balaclava, died at Hawick on 27th

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January 1896, aged 78. Deceased, who belonged to Hawick, enlisted in the Ninety-Third (Sutherland) Highlanders in 1837, and was sent to the Crimea on war breaking out in 1854. At Balaclava he formed part of the "thin red line," and received several medals in recognition of his bravery and good conduct. Deceased retired with a small pension. He was the first drill-instructor of the Hawick Volunteer Corps, and in 1887 celebrated the jubilee of his enlistment.

And from the *Dundee Weekly News*:—

Sergeant George Fairgrieve, an old Crimean warrior, and a native of Jedburgh, died a few days ago at Linden Terrace, Hawick, of heart disease, in his 72nd year. George joined the ranks of the gallant Ninety-Third Sutherland Highlanders at Edinburgh on 8th May 1848, and saw 21 years' active service in the British Army, where he gained the rank of Sergeant. He fought and gained a medal at "Umbeyla," and was also through the Crimean War being present at Sebastopol, Alma, and Balaclava, for which he also received medals. On his discharge, on 9th June 1869, he also had the honour of receiving the long service medal for good conduct, accompanied by a substantial pension of 1*s.* 11*d.* per day. Sergeant Fairgrieve at times was wont to unbosom himself to a trusted companion, who informs us of some very interesting incidents in his career. Marching up the heights of Alma, under Sir Colin Campbell, to the inspiring notes of the national bagpipes, George's rear-rank man was shot through the shoulder—only falling down when he felt the blood cozing from the wound. Our friend confessed to a feeling of fear at first when approaching the enemy, but the moment the word of command was given fear vanished, "we pressed eagerly forward, the best man for't." At Balaclava only 450 of the Ninety Third Highlanders mustered in fighting force, and Sergeant Fairgrieve used to say the sight of the supporting Scots Grey's swords glancin' i' the sun was the finest thing he ever saw in his life. He had many hair-breadth escapes, but always escaped scot-free. In one of his letters to his friends in Scotland, he mentions that on one occasion four bullets pierced his Highland bonnet and knocked off a wrist button from his coat sleeve. He also used to relate how they dodged the shells in the trenches before Sebastopol,—there being a certain authorised position,—and a comrade violating the rules had both his legs carried off. Though possessed of a remarkably tough constitution, George, one day, was observed by the doctor to betray symptoms of liver complaint, and he was discharged. The disease developed rapidly, and on arrival at the port of Aberdeen George found himself a confirmed invalid. His native air, however, enabled the old veteran to recover from this virulent attack. He joined the Lanarkshire Militia force, from which he also ultimately withdrew, taking up his abode in Hawick, where we find him for some twenty-five years—thirteen years of which were spent in full charge of the yarn store in Messrs. Wm. Laidlaw & Sons' factory. A contingent of the military element in Hawick urged a military funeral for the old warrior, who had fought his last battle, but his sorrowing widow thought a private funeral would be more in accordance with her gallant deceased husband's wish—he being of a singularly quiet and retiring disposition—and this was carried out—to Wilton Cemetery.

To both the above cuttings we are indebted to the courtesy of Colour-Sergeant J. Scott, Instructor to the Dumbartonshire R. V., to whom many thanks are due, as this is not the first time the *Thin Red Line* has benefited through the same source. Colour-Sergeant Scott promises the photo and biography of another "thin red line" hero wearing six decorations, whose history is sure to be interesting, more especially as the biography will be of one still hale and hearty.

According to the same correspondent the health of the Ninety-Third was drunk with great enthusiasm on the occasion of the Annual Dinner of the Sergeant Instructors, 1st Dumbarton R. V.

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The battalion figure of merit for 1895 is 118·15. "A" Company heads the list with 134·18.

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Second Lieutenant R. J. P. Cox joined on the 16th March. He has been posted to "D." Company.

* * * * * *

Captain Robinson left for Burmah on 1st February on six months' leave. He hopes to get some good big game shooting, but had not been successful when last heard from.

* * * * * *

Major Campbell and Lieutenant Patten have gone home on nine months' leave.

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Sport in Somali Land.

A DAY WITH LIONS.

WE had been some four or five days in a part of the country where we expected to fall in with lions, but up to the 19th of August had come across nothing, except a few old tracks. Some two or three days previously I had, indeed, had a few minutes excitement, expecting a brush, not with wild animals, but with wild men. I had ridden out early that morning along with my two *shikaries*, and accompanied by four mounted Somalies from one of the neighbouring *karias*, to look for lions in some jungle about 7 or 8 miles from camp. Having gone some way, and seen nothing, I went along with my two *shikaries* to the top of a small mound about a quarter of a mile distant, leaving my *syce* and the mounted Somalies behind. Seeing nothing from the mound, we sat down, intending to wait till our Somalies rejoined us, when suddenly the *syce* appeared, running towards us as hard as he could lay legs to the ground. We started off at once towards him, expecting to hear that our Somalies had either seen or heard a lion, as, though we had not yet seen anything, the place we were in was one in which lions were often found. The *syce* said something in Somali to my head *shikari*, and when the latter translated it into Hindustani for my benefit, it appeared that, when we were on the mound, our Somalies had been standing beside their ponies, when suddenly an arrow whistled close over their heads, and they saw some Midgans (the low caste hunting tribe of the Somalies) running away among the trees and long grass. They had not fired any more arrows, and my Somalies said that if they (the Midgans) saw that a *sahib* was out with them, they would not dare to give any more trouble. I was most unwilling to embroil myself with any one near where I was likely to be shooting, fearing that this might greatly militate against my getting any reliable *khabar*, more especially with the Midgans—as they practically live by hunting, and I had hopes that they would prove of service to me in the future. So I told the Somalies that I had come out to *shikar* lions, not men, and that we had better go on, now that the *tir wallahs* (as they call the Midgans) had disappeared. This they did, and we were never again molested during the whole of our trip. But to resume. On the 19th August a man came to our camp to say he had that day seen two lions in some scrub jungle about two-and a-half hours' ride from our camp, and thither we determined to go early next morning to test the truth of his statement. M. (who was shooting with me) and I had agreed to separate the next day, and of course there was the inevitable delay in the morning before we could manage to get our camps separated, &c., so that it was quarter to eight before I got fairly started. This was particularly aggravating, as we had arranged nearly everything the previous afternoon in view of this contingency, but with the usual perversity of human nature, our headman had mixed up certain boxes of stores, &c., which had been carefully separated; and at the last moment I found he was taking away for his own use a small servants' tent, which he had been expressly told was to remain behind. At last, however, everything was ready, and with mutual good wishes for sport and safety, M. and I separated, neither of us being destined to see a white face again for two months-and-a-half.

I was, as before, accompanied by four mounted Somalies, my *shikaries* also being mounted on this occasion, as we had a long way to go, and had already lost much time. Our way was through some fairly thick jungle of Mimosa thorn, and as I was riding a trotting camel, which is not nearly as handy as a pony for going in and out among the bushes, my knickerbockers were soon torn in many places. At last, after just two-and-a-half hours ride from camp, the four Somalies, who were a short way ahead of me, suddenly swerved to the right, and dashed off at a gallop through the trees with shouts of "Libah—Libah" (Lions—Lions). I foolishly slipped off my camel, and started to run on foot, carrying my 12-bore rifle in my hand: consequently

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on coming up to the horseman, about half a mile further on, I was quite pumped out, and by no means in a fit state to shoot. As usually happens, when pursued by mounted men, the lions had stopped on finding themselves overtaken, and had laid down in the grass, which was here long enough to conceal them nearly entirely. I then caught sight of the first lion I had ever seen outside a menagerie. On this occasion all I could see was a yellow head looking at me out of a patch of grass some 70 yards off, absolutely nothing else to fire at. Going up to about 40 yards distance I raised the rifle, but I was so blown that the foresight kept making circles all round the lion's head, and I was quite unable to get it steady. I ought to have sat down and waited till I got my wind again, as a lion, when brought to bay like this one, won't, as a rule, attempt to move if you do not go too close : but this being my first experience, I did not know this, and feared he might bolt, besides which I knew there was another—and possibly a third lion quite close. So I fired—"chancing it"—my first shot ; he never moved, and I gave him the second barrel, when the head disappeared in the grass and I thought I had got him. However, he got up and bolted, evidently hit, the Somalies after him again. Firing a snap shot at him as he went, I reloaded and ran after him, and had the satisfaction of seeing him stop again, as before, in another patch of grass about 100 yards further on. Again I got up to about 40 yards and fired. This time I thought I had raised the devil in him at last, as, on receiving the shot, he rushed straight towards us, but stopped, facing me, at the edge of the patch of grass. This gave me the chance I wanted, as I had a fair shot at his chest. He dropped at once, and going a bit closer I put in another shot behind his shoulder, and started at once after No. 2. This one, a lioness, was lying under a tree about 200 yards off. I had now got my wind again, and was pretty steady, so, going up to a small tree about 35 yards off, I steadied the rifle against a branch, and fired at the lioness as she lay facing me obliquely. The bullet hit her in the chest, and passed in a slanting direction through her body, coming out just in front of the right thigh. On receiving this shot she turned slightly to her right exposing her left shoulder, at which I fired the left barrel. The bullet hit her exactly behind the shoulder and she fell over. My *shikaries* set up a shout of delight, and then told me that Agkar Gerard, the chief of my Somalies, had gone off *alone* after a third lion. As the lioness was still moving slightly, and I did not of course then know where my shots had taken effect, I went up to about 20 yards and gave her a third shot : then, mounting my camel, went on after No. 3. It was fully five minutes before we could get any idea as to Agkar Gerard's whereabouts, as the jungle was pretty thick about here, but at last we got an answer to our shouts, though from a long way off. Going in the direction his voice came from, in about eight minutes we found him riding slowly to and fro in front of a patch of grass, through which I could just make out the outline of a lion crouching down. At first it was impossible to determine what part of the animal's body was visible, but at last I caught sight of the tail moving up and down with short sharp jerks. There was a small ant-hill a short distance in front of me, and about 40 yards from the lion, up to which I managed to get without his moving. Lying down on the slope, I got a good view (being slightly above him) and fired, when the lion fell over, and another shot behind the shoulder finished off what we all took for a maneless lion, on account of its size, 8′ 2½″, but on going up we found it, to our surprise, to be a lioness. On seeing her, the third, lying dead, my *shikaries* and all the Somalies set up a wild yell, and crowding round me began to shake my hands and shout their congratulations in my ears. From first sighting the lions to the killing of this last one, barely half an hour had elapsed, and I may fairly say I considered it the best spent thirty minutes of my life. I had, indeed, been most fortunate, first of all in finding the lions so easily, and then in bagging all three without a charge.

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Had the first "gone for" me, there is no saying what might have happened, as, even when I fired the last shot, I was anything but steady. After skinning, we started back for camp, forming a sort of triumphal procession, headed by Agkar Gerard and Nar Farar (my head *shikari*), who took it in turns to sing all the way back. On our way we passed two *karias* (or temporary Somali encampments), all the inhabitants of which turned out to see the skins and heads, and shake hands with me. On reaching my camp the same scene was enacted again, and I was surrounded by my camel men, servants, &c., who nearly pulled me off my camel in their endeavours to shake hands with me; Agkar Gerard, meanwhile, sitting on his pony in front of my tent, brandishing his spear and shield and singing, or rather chanting, at the top of his voice, what I was told was a composition of his own on the day's sport. And thus ended my first day with the lions.

M. McN.

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Old "K" Company Again.

—o—

A SHORT time previous to the old Ninety-Third leaving Aldershot in '82 for Windsor, there left its ranks Private Hugh Fraser, after completing twenty-two years with the regiment. Before leaving he told me his future abode would be Beauly, a district I knew. I had often wondered what had happened to him since those days, and recently at Stirling discovered his address. I wrote to him and asked him to come to see me, as I live in the locality. On the 13th February he paid me a visit. Although he has left us for some fourteen years, he is still the well set up man that he was when he left. He is now a crofter on the Belladrum Estate.

There are very few men left in the battalion who would remember Fraser. He was servant to Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, and at one time to the late Major Brand. He told me, with commendable pride, that he was selected in 1882 for orderly to the late Emperor of Germany at Aldershot when His Majesty visited there; "but," said he, "I am not the smart man I was at that time." I asked him why he did not send us some more men like himself. He seemed to think they were not obtainable, and with that I agreed. Reminding me of the old story of the King of the Belgians, who, when a guest of the Prince of Wales in this country, expressed a desire to possess a piper, His Royal Highness sent for his piper and told him that His Majesty wanted a piper like himself. "Aye," said Donald, "but where will you find him?"

He had a very clear recollection of the old Corps, and was much interested in all I could tell him. I reminded him that at times he was of assistance in showing the young subaltern his proper place on the flank of the company by a gentle pull at the sleeve. I plead guilty to that soft impeachment. He presented me with a walking stick he had himself cut in the woods. I, on the other hand, gave him a photo of "C" Company. I had not one of "K" Company. He spoke in laudatory terms of "C" Company, although he had never served in it. He sent his kind remembrances to all his old brother soldiers, but I fear there are not many of them left. Colour-Sergeant Spedding is one who will remember him, and also Colour-Sergeant Wight. He still thinks that it is THE Corps in the British Army, and I quite agree.

He was present in the battalion in the march from Sialkot to Jhansi in our former tour of Indian Service. I gave him several copies of the *Thin Red Line* in which he was much interested. I have met a considerable number of the old Corps since I have been at Stirling besides Fraser, and they are in civilian life a credit to the Corps to which they belonged.

A. F. MACKENZIE,
Ord House, Ros-shire.

14th February, 1896.

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BIRTHS.

Maxwell.—At Mian Mir, on the 9th December 1895, the wife of Pioneer Sergeant W. Maxwell, of a daughter—Mary.

Mitchell.—At Nowshera, on the 5th February 1896, the wife of Sergeant R. Mitchell of a son—Robert.

McBean.—At Nowshera, on the 23rd February 1896, the wife of Private D. McBean, of a daughter—Lilian Beatrice.

Dunkeld.—At Nowshera, on the 22nd March 1896, the wife of Sergeant R. Dunkeld, of a son.

DEATHS.

Brown.—At Colaba, on the 22nd October 1895, Corporal A. Brown, Wiltshire Regiment, late Band Corporal, 93rd.

Price.—At Mian Mir, on 29th November 1895, No. 3874, Private T. Price, "A" Company, of dysentery.

Thomas.—At Mian Mir, on the 15th December 1895, No. 3711, Private Hugh Thomas, "H" Company.

Downey.—At Rawalpindi, on the 29th, December 1885, No. 4564, Private P. Downey, "C" Company, of pneumonia.

Gifford.—At Nowshera, on the 30th December 1895, No. 2918, Private C. Gifford, "A" Company, of pneumonia.

McLean.—At Nowshera, on the 4th January 1896, No. 3450, Private S. McLean, "E" Company.

Campbell.—At the Station Hospital, Nowshera, on the 30th January, Jenny, the infant daughter of Sergeant P. Campbell.

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Mian Mir to Nowshera.

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THE march of the right wing from Mian Mir to Nowshera—a case of the "survival of the fittest"—is now so much a thing of the past that a detailed and lengthy account would be out of place. As, however, so many places of interest were passed on the road, and the march was, on the whole, such an enjoyable one to the few who took part in it, it would equally be out of place were nothing said. Before marching about 200 men were left with the attached section—time-expired men and invalids for home, and men in hospital and unfit to march.

On the 2nd December, the Somerset Light Infantry marched in from Umballa, the pipers meeting them on the Shalimar road. Only four companies could go into barracks, the remainder encamping between the bungalows. All was bustle and confusion for the next few days; the new regiment moving in, and our wing preparing for the march. On the day of the Somersets arrival the Bedfordshire Regiment, marching to Umballa, were in the rest-camp for two days, and also a party of our own men from Dalhousie Depôt training to Nowshera.

During the few days we were together advantage was taken to play our old friends of the 3rd Brigade at Aldershot at polo and football. At the former, our team, consisting of Captain Cameron and Lieutenants Campbell, Johnston Stewart and Patten, proved victorious, but the football match went to the Somersets, the wing team appearing to be out of form.

On Friday, the 6th December, we bid farewell to Mian Mir, and once more felt the Grand Trunk Road beneath our feet; all the bands of the garrison attended to do honour to our departure, and those who were for the old country turned out to a man; some of the more adventurous spirits even accompanying us as far as the Fort at Lahore before saying "Good-bye."

The bands, playing alternately, helped to cover the first two or three miles; then, inclining to the left, played "Auld Lang Syne" as a send off. The 20th Punjab Infantry, however, who had lost their turn in playing, owing to something going wrong with their big drum, would not be denied, and continued playing for a considerable distance along the Lahore road. The first day's march was not a long one, and Shadera was reached by noon, the camp being already pitched by the baggage guard.

The next day the march was to Muridki, perhaps the best known camp of exercise for mounted branches of the service in India. Here were three batteries of Royal Horse Artillery, and during the following day (Sunday) many visits were paid and returned.

The polo team, flushed with their success against the Somersets, played the Gunners on the afternoon of our arrival.

Monday's march led to Kamoki, where, after having been threatening for a few days, it rained heavily, and history was nearly repeating itself, as it will be remembered rain delayed, on the third day, our march from Umballa to Mian Mir two years before. Gujranwala was our next halt, a pretty considerable town and very clean; Gukkur next; and then to Wazirabad, the Sheffield of India. Here vendors of all descriptions of knives, malacca and horn canes, drinking cups and other kindred articles, invaded the camp and met the unwary at every turn; prodigious prices were, as usual, at first asked for these commodities, but an offer at one-fifth the initial price usually secured a purchase. The next march led to Gujrat, celebrated for the victory over the Sikhs in 1849. The Chenab having to be crossed this march, the baggage was sent by train for about half the distance, and it was late in the afternoon before camp was completely pitched. The chief commodities of Gujrat appear to be folding chairs, and with these a considerable trade was done. The battlefield lies about four miles from the camping-ground beyond the city, to the north, and is well worth a visit, the graves being tended by an old Sikh, who, as a boy when the battle was fought, remembers vividly the storm of shot and shell thrown by the British guns, against which the Sikh could not stand. There are several

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memorials to officers and men who fell in the battle, with many appropriate inscriptions. Lala Musa was the next camp, and being reached on Saturday, here we remained two days; a cricket match, the second, being played against a team from Gujrat, who had challenged us the day before. Chillianwallah is about 30 miles from Lala Musa and can be reached by train, our champion explorer paying this celebrated battle-field a visit.

Monday, 17th, saw us on the road to Kharian; here we met a squadron of the 10th Bengal Lancers on field training from Jhelum. Across the Jhelum (the Hydaspes of the ancients, on the banks of which Alexander of Macedon defeated the Indian King Porus) the next day, the camping-ground being about two miles above the river and town. The bridge over the river is a splendid structure, about three-quarters of a mile in length, and had to be crossed with one hundred yards between companies. The main channel of the river runs near the right bank, and appeared to be very rapid; when the floods are out it must be a roaring torrent nearly a mile wide. There was another cricket match this afternoon. The pipes and band of the 26th Punjab Infantry, who are in garrison here, played us on our road the next day to Deena; then to Sohawa, a longish march of fourteen miles, our pipers being without any accompaniment this day owing to the sickness to the big drummer. At this camp five of the football team left by train the same night for Nowshera to prepare for the Army Cup Tournament. Gujar Khan was the next march, and then Mundra, where the weekly halt took place. Rewat, one march from Pindi, was reached on Monday, 23rd December. Here was an ancient Mahommedan fort and mosque, now in ruins, and forming a most picturesque break on the bleak, undulating plateau, of which character the country hereabout partakes. The interior of the ruin contained tombs of, perhaps, former conquerors of this part of India; the upper part of the mosque bearing the handiwork of many generations of regiments who have advanced and retired along the great highway of North-West India. Two inscriptions were of special interest, being no doubt cut by men of the regiment marching from Umballa to Rawalpindi over thirty-five years ago. They were as follows:—"93rd S. H." and "93rd, 9th March '60." By the size and character of the letters they must have entailed a considerable amount of labour: and we hazard the opinion that the sculptor, whoever he was, did not attend afternoon parade on that particular 9th of March. To celebrate our own visit, and for the edification of a later generation, "Again, 1896." was roughly scratched under the former inscription.

Next day Rawalpindi hove in sight, the camping-ground being near the Fort and Church Lines. Here, with the King's Own Scottish Borderers in garrison and the Gordon Highlanders only four miles away at West Ridge, great things were looked forward to. In the afternoon the Corporals accepted an invitation to the Gordons, and attended almost to a man to usher in Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day many visits were paid and returned, the Sergeants in the evening being invited to the Borderer's Mess, where an excellent meal was laid, followed by a convivial evening, the thought of the early rise and march on the following morning being banished in the flowing bowl.

A early start the next morning, the march to Jaini-ka—Singh being about sixteen miles. Here was a monument to General John Nicholson, the Lion of the Punjab, from whom the place derives its name; a memorial well to this great soldier of pre-Mutiny days, who lost his life at Delhi, with inscriptions in English and Vernacular, is in the cutting, through which the roadway passes a hilly spur. The monument forming a conspicuous landmark for miles around, on the edge of the cutting south of the road. Passing this about three miles from camp the next place was Hassan Abdul, where is the road to Abbottabad, and from thence to Ghilgit and Chilas. There are many picturesque ruins at Hassan Abdul, amongst them being the reputed tomb of "Lalla Rookh."

The next march was also a longish one, and two rivers, the Hurroo and the Chublat, having

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to be crossed, made it late before camp was reached. Considerable difficulty was here experienced with the baggage, the banks being very steep, especially of the latter river, which the troops ferried; the Harroo had to be forded, however, the water being over the knee. Both rivers had at one time been bridged, but these had been destroyed by previous floods. Owing to the halt at Rawalpindi, Sunday, 29th, saw us on the road to Attock, the camping-ground being about two and-a-half miles short of the fort, which, in addition to some Artillery, was garrisoned by a company of the Rifle Brigade from Rawalpindi.

The road next day passed the fort, a straggling structure on the banks of the Indus, which could be completely commanded by the hills on the opposite bank, having evidently been built before the use of Artillery to guard the ferry across the river. The roadway was here winding and hilly leading to the railway bridge by which the river is crossed, a subway underneath forming the road; both flanks of the bridge are guarded by gates, there being a police guard at either end, who close the gates at night. The camp at Khyrabad was almost opposite the fort, the ferry across the river at this point saving about five miles. Just above the camping-ground is the confluence of the Indus and Kabul rivers. When the snows melt on the hills, or the rains break, immense bodies of water rush down between the high rocky banks, the water having been known to rise fifty or sixty feet in a few hours, when the camping-ground itself would be entirely covered. High hills on the west of the camp are intersected with *kutcha* roads to their summits, which are fortified, and would form an almost impassable barrier to any army from the frontier.

The remainder of the journey kept the Kabul river on our right all the way, Akora being the last camp before reaching Nowshera. At Akora "Hogmanay" was celebrated in the usual manner, the first experience of this on the march. The pipes and drums played round the camp just after midnight, and then escorted the officers to the Sergeants' Mess tent, where the usual toast and good wishes for 1896 were given. Twelve o'clock on New Year's Day saw the wing at its destination, after a most enjoyable march of over two hundred and fifty miles, the longest that has so far been accomplished by the regiment during its present tour of service in this country. Though, perhaps, there were many regrets that the tramp had finished, the majority were pleased to once more feel a roof over their head and to be again between stone walls.

W. G.

———:o:———

Reply to "Rab."

—o—

"I'M FAUR AWA' FRAE SCOTLAND."
(*In October Number.*)

—o—

DEAR Rab, I'm sorry for ye lad,
But still I canna greet;
Tho' the guid auld toon o' Paisley,
I ken ye lang tae see't;
Ye ken ye just maun bide your time,
As ithers hae tae dae,
Even although the lass ye loe,
Frae you be far away.

Chorus.—I ken' tis unco weary whiles
Tae coont the lang, lang days,
Till ye may kiss the lass ye loe
In your civilian claes;
But gin tae me ye did belang,
I'd happy ca' my lot,
Gin ye wad kiss me as ye are,
Just in your scarlet coat!

I dinna grudge ye thinkin' o'
The bonnie lass ye loe,
An' like the Ninety-Third of old
May ye be even "true
Tae ane anither," as they were
In the auld days gane by,
When comrades were tae anither
"Aye true, aye!"

That you 'mang woods an' dales should go
I weel can understan',
An' wi' the bonnie lass ye loe
Should wander han' in han';
For Scotland is the dearest land
That ane need wish tae see,
But wha'd compare civilian claes,
Untae oor Nine an' Three?

Weel, please yoursel', it is o' mine
Maist truly nae affair,
An' if ye winna be content,
You'd better no be there.
What makes me answer you, ava,
Is mair than I can tell,
Save that untae the Ninety-Third,
I'm kent as "Sister Nell."

NELLIE HYSLOP RUME.

Dumfries, February 1896.

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The Long Shoulder.

—o—

I was not sure which was my shortest way to get to the Royal Avenue, so I asked him.

He was a Chelsea pensioner taking his Sunday outing—an old fellow with a touch of red still in his white hair, a turned-up nose, and a twinkle in his blue eyes.

"Over beyant there," he said, and pointed with his stick, and before I could move off, he asked, as a return, information for information, whether there was any news to-day.

"Nothing of any importance. Kumassi was said to have been taken without fighting, the German Emperor had not sent any telegrams, nobody had invented a fresh application of the Monroe doctrine, the Militia were not to be called out, and er—er—yes; it will be interesting to an old soldier like you, the 'long shoulder' is to be abolished, and the regiments are to go past at the 'short shoulder' with the men swinging their arms."

"Then good-bye to the glory of Great Britain and Ireland," said the old fellow. "How's a good regiment to be told from a bad one. Why, a man might be rocking drunk in the ranks and not be checked. Oi remember at one of our battles, the name of which is not of importance, that we was marching up a hill wid a great foire of bullets and cannister and grape in front, and the round shot whistling down the ranks from a flank fire they was keeping up, like a cage full of bullfinches. There was wan man in the Company, 561, Dan Rafferty, a Kerry man, who never would keep his butt back. We was marching up this hill, as if on parade, and the Colour-Sergeant, Moike Feeny, that was doing Right Guide that day, glances down the ranks and shouts out, 'Keep back that butt, Rafferty,' and hardly was the words out of his mouth when a round shot as big as your head came singing along the ranks, grazed the belt-buckle of every man in the company, and took off Rafferty's hand that was protruding. Ah, it was a foine position the 'long shoulder.' Whoi, the old Duke—God rest his soul—when the Emperors of Russia and Germany cum over here visiting, the Queen said to them, 'I'll show you all the grand things of the country, the Christial Pallis, and the Monument, and the Royal Irish shoulder arms.' He was mighty partial to our shoulder. Wan day—it was afther Talavera or Vittoria, I disremember which—there had been some small matter of the robbing of a church and the breaking into some wine vaults, and we was formed up for the Duke to see us. The drummers had been warned for duty and the triangles was ready, and it was said that the Duke was going to flog every tenth man. As he rode up we cum to the shoulder. 'God help me, Hill,' he said to the celebrated general that rode alongside him, 'how can I punish a regiment that can shoulder like that,' and he wept like a child. And——"

"You seem to have seen a good deal of fighting?" I broke in.

"I was in ev'ry pitched battle, combat and skirmish of this century," said the old man, with a wink. "Now, as to this matter of the shoulder——"

"You said the Avenue was over there? Thank you, and will you accept this to buy some baccy for yourself?"

And I left the old man muttering that the glory of the Service was gone for ever.

N. N.-D. (In the *Man of the World.*)

Polo.

—o—

THE INFANTRY TOURNAMENT.

THIS Tournament took place at Lucknow on February the 3rd, 5th and 7th. Seven teams entered, and the first round was drawn as follows:—

The Buffs *v.* The Oxfordshire Light Infantry: winners The Buffs.

The Durham Light Infantry *v.* The Essex Regiment: winners the Durham Light Infantry.

The Devon Regiment *v.* The Highland Light Infantry: winners The Devon Regiment; 93rd Highlanders a bye.

The second round was played on Wednesday, February the 5th, and was as follows:—

Durham Light Infantry *v.* The Buffs.

The Durhams, who were very much superior to any other team in the tournament, won easily by eight goals to two.

93rd Highlanders *v.* The Devon Regiment.

This was quite the keenest and best contested game of the Tournament. The teams were as follows:—

93rd.	Devons.
1. Captain Cameron.	1. Lieut. Chichester.
2 Lieut. Malcolm.	2. Lieut. Kane.
3. Lieut. Johnston Stewart.	3. Lieut. Morris.
Back—Lieut. Patten.	*Back*—Lieut. Ravenshaw.

On the ball being thrown in, the 93rd at once carried it down to the Devons end and scored a goal in the first minute of play. Ends were changed, and the Devons assumed the offensive and quickly equalized, and before the end of the first *chucker* added another goal to their score.

In the second *chucker* the Devons had the best of the game, but were unable to score, and towards the end of the period Malcolm on *Jessica* galloped away from our opponents and made the score equal once more. Our hopes now ran high, for the game was very fast, and even all through the third period, and though the Devons scored two or three subsidiaries they were unable to get a goal. In the early part of the fourth *chucker*, however, they managed to do so, and, in spite of strenuous efforts, we could not manage to add to our score, so at the call of "time" the Devons were the victors by three goals to two.

The Final between the Durham Light Infantry and the Devons was played on Friday, 7th of February, and, as was expected, resulted in a fairly easy win for the Durhams by seven goals to two.

Our team was said to have greatly improved since 1894, which was the last time we played in the Tournament, and we must hope that the improvement will continue, though it will be a long time before any Infantry team is as good as the Durham Light Infantry. At Umballa, in March, they easily won the Inter-Regimental Tournament, which had never before been won by the team of an Infantry battalion.

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Sports.

—o—

SPORTS were held on the parade-ground on the afternoon of the 26th February, under the management of the Sports Club. The entries were not very good, and there were not so many spectators as we could have wished to see. Two events fell through altogether.

In throwing the light hammer Private Auld was first, Private Brydon was second. Five competed. In the Single Stick in the first tie, Privates Cook, Bull and Corporal Johnstone won, with Private Bailey a bye. Corporal Johnstone beating Bull in the final.

220 YARDS' RACE. FIVE STARTED.

Private Adcock, 1st. | Corporal Forbes, 2nd.
Time 29¾ seconds.

MILE RACE. NINE STARTED.

Pte. Elliott, 1st. | Pte. Adcock, 2nd. | Pte. Atherton.
Time 5 min. 20¾ seconds.

PUTTING THE SHOT. SEVEN COMPETED.

Private Brydon, 1st, 30 feet 4 inches. | Private Fraser, 2nd.

BAYONET *vs.* BAYONET.

First Ties.

Privates T. Bailey, G. Bailey, Bull, Royffe, Cook and Gibson won their places.

Second Ties.

Privates Cook, H. Bailey, and Bull won.

Third Ties.

Pte. Bull beat H. Bailey; Cook a bye.

Final.

Pte. Cook beat Bull.

—: o :—

The Punjab—Bengal Army Cup.

—o—

IN the first year of this competition the Cup has gone to the Gordon Highlanders; our team, who journeyed to Umballa, being one of the eight teams left in for the fourth round. Only one match of the competition was played at Nowshera, that against the Devons, in the second, when we were successful by one goal to *nil*. In this match the forward line was not by any means trained or dangerous and missed many chances of scoring; throughout the Tournament this was always our weak point, and probably resulted in the loss of the trophy. The first match at Umballa was against the Oxford Light Infantry, and resulted in an easy win by three goals to nothing. On the 17th February, however, we met the Gordons in the semi-final. The match was an interesting and exciting one, for it was generally taken for granted the winners would eventually secure the Cup, which proved to be the case. The game, although at times fast, was not up to expectations, and we had the bad luck to lose the left back in the second half. With the wind in our favour at the commencement of the game, however, something should have been done in the way of scoring, but the *Forwards* were faulty and nothing resulted. The Gordons, however, managed to score, and at half time the game stood one to *nil* against us. Soon after re-starting Private Gordon damaged his knee and had to retire, and with his departure all energies had to be centered upon a successful defence, and the chances of equalising appeared very faint. The Gordons did not succeed in increasing their score, and our spasmotic attempts upon their goal being fruitless, at the call of "time" the scores remained unaltered. In the final the Somersets were defeated by the Gordons by one goal to *nil* who thus secured the Cup, which is a very handsome one worth Rs. 2,000. Altogether the Tournament must be considered a most successful one, and has ingratuated a new era in Indian football. A complete record of the Tournament follows :—

First Round.

The Queen's beat 18th Hussars (6-1).
Royal West Kent beat R. A., Roorkee (4-0).
Oxfordshire L. I. beat The Cameronians (3-1).*
Highland L. I. beat Essex Regiment (3-0).
K. O. S. Borderers beat Rifle Brigade (4-0).

Second Round.

The Queen's beat The Bedfordshire Regiment (3-1).
Highland L. I. beat Royal Welsh Fusiliers (2-0).
93rd Highlanders beat Devonshire Regiment (1-0).
Somersetshire L. I. beat King's Royal Rifles(2-1).*
Gordon Highlanders beat 5th Coompany W. Division, R. A.(7-0).
Duke of Cornwall's L. I. beat Royal West Kent Regiment (1-0).
Shropshire L. I. beat Royal Munster Fusiliers (4-0).
Manchester Regiment beat Norfolk Regiment (scratched).

Third Round.

Gordon Highlanders beat K. O. S. Borderers (2-0).
Oxfordshire L. I. beat The Queen's (4-0).

Fourth Round.

Gordon Highlanders beat H. L. I. (2-1) after a draw 1-1.
Somersetshire L. I. beat Shropshire L. I. (2-0) after a draw 0-0.
93rd Highlanders beat Oxfordshire L. I. (3-0).
Duke of Cornwall's L. I. beat Manchester Regiment (1-0).

Fifth Round.

Gordon Highlanders beat 93rd Highlanders (1-0).
Somersetshire L. I. beat Duke of Cornwall's L. I. (5-0).

Final Tie.

Gordon Highlanders beat Somerset L. I. (1-0).

* Siguifies extra time played.

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What the Parrot is Saging.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it].

THAT the richt hauf an' the ither hauf had ower much. to say to ane anither on New Year's Day.

That its been sae lang wi' the regiment noo that it's picked up the national dialect.

That General's Inspection went aff a' richt as usual.

That one o' its parteecular freends wis mentioned in dispatches.

That it didna get tae the Peshawar picnic.

That it wis "bags tar go" mairching in.

That some ane had his e'en on "they cabs."

That there were na sae vera mony entries at the Peshawar sports.

That three firsts wisna sae bad considerin.'

That things were gey lively the last few nichts.

That a dhooli bearer wis the only bag.

That some ane was ower particular whaur he sleepit.

That he wis na sae particular for the next three days.

That there were nae sair feet comin' back.

That the new station's makin' great odds wi' the troops.

That its no like the same regiment it wis at Mian Mir.

That the least said aboot the fit ba' team the better.

That the league matches were na played on their merits.

That its a guid while noo since it spoke.

—:o:—

At Peshawar.

—o—

ON Monday, March 9th, the battalion marched to Peshawar to take part in the inspection of the Division by Lieutenant-General Sir W. Lockhart, K.C.B., Commanding the Forces in the Punjab. The Nowshera Brigade, consisting of the 38th Dogras and the 93rd, was under the command of Colonel Lorne Campbell, Commanding at Nowshera. Major Napier commanded the Battalion, which marched out 560 strong. Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh remained behind to accompany Sir William Lockhart in his inspection of our barracks on the 10th, and Lieutenant Bell was left behind in command of the Depôt.

On Monday night we halted at Pubbi, rather more than half way. It is here that the road to Cherat branches off from the Grand Trunk Road. On Tuesday, the 10th, we marched into Peshawar, where we found our camp already pitched for us by the Devon Regiment on The Buffs' parade-ground.

Sir William Lockhart arrived on the morning of the 11th under the usual salute, and was met at the railway station by Commanding Officers and Heads of Departments. Later in the day he made an inspection of barracks and hospitals, but did not come to our camp. On the 12th there was a review order parade on the Devons' parade-ground. The troops were drawn up in two lines, the Nowshera brigade being in the second. The parade was of the sealed pattern type—inspection of the line, march past in column and quarter column, advance in review order and return to quarters.

On the 13th there was a field day, which lasted for some hours, and was conducted to the complete satisfaction of the Lieutenant-General commanding. Saturday, 14th, was a quiet day, and Sir W. Lockhart left in the evening after dinner. In the afternoon there was a gymkhana at the racecourse, which went off very well, though none of the regimental ponies won a race.

Monday, the 16th, was another peaceful day. It had been intended to rehearse the field firing scheme with blank ammunition on this day, but the project had to be abandoned as the day was a Muhammadan holiday. We do not know if the field day was abandoned for fear of hurting the feelings of the Muhammadans, but if this was the case it would seem advisable to discontinue holding parades on native festivals. It would be a most popular innovation, and should be considered by the Military Member of Council.

On Tuesday, 17th, we paraded at 7-45 and marched about 4 miles to a village called Hari Singh-ka-burj, beyond which we were formed up to attack a position marked by screens at the foot of a small range of hills. The Nowshera brigade was in the centre of the attack, the Dogras in front, and the 93rd forming the second line. The attack was over perfectly open ground with little cover, except occasional small nullahs. The ground was very stony and rather tiring to march over. We returned to barracks about 4 P.M. In the evening the Officers of the 20th Punjab Infantry, who were at Meean Meer with as before they joined the Waziristan Expedition, were 'at home' on their parade-ground for a Khattak dance. This is danced by about thirty men in a circle round a large bonfire. The men all carry swords, and as they dance round the fire singing and shouting and flourishing their swords, the scene is very pretty. The tom-tom major who conducted the band of two serenais and their tom-toms was a wonder, and must have had a thirst worth a month's pay when he had finished. His style of playing is not considered quite suitable for the "Garb of old Gaul," and Sergeant Jackson is, therefore, not going to him for a course of instruction.

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In one part of the dance men appear with two swords each, which they swing round their heads at a great pace, some of them doing this while moving backwards and forwards across the space in front of the bonfire, on their knees.

On Wednesday, 18th, we paraded at 7-45, and carried out with ball cartridge the programme rehearsed on the previous day. The artillery began with some excellent practice at a village, and then the Devons on the right opened with long range volleys and machine-gun fire. Our advance was carried out the same as on the previous day, and we finished with a charge. As soon as the "cease fire" sounded there was a rush of natives all over the front of the line. Where they all came from, goodness only knows. There they were busy picking up bullets and cartridge cases, and apparently picking up a good many. The results of the field firing were considered very satisfactory by the chief umpire.

The second brigade obtained 829 hits on the firing lines, 61 on the supports, 6 on the reserves, 26 on the picquets, 2 on the picquet sentries; total hits, 924. Total rounds fired 12,451. Percentage of hits to rounds fixed 7·42.

The following morning about 4-15 A.M, one of the *kahars* belonging to our hospital establishment was shot by a thief. It appears that this *kahar*, Toter by name, was awakened by a man coming out of the Assistant Surgeon's tent carrying a bundle in his arms. He called out at once, and the thief dropped the bundle and shot him through the chest with a pistol and then made off with two other men, carrying off a pair of boots with them. Several people heard the shot fired, but nearly all of them thought the sound came from the Dogras' camp. The wounded man, we believe, is doing well. The bullet passed right through his chest above the lung and came out at his back.

On Thursday and Friday, 19th and 20th, the District Assault-at-Arms was held on the garrison recreation ground. Owing to the very short notice received of the conditions of the various events, we were unable to compete in the Physical Drill and Bayonet Exercise competitions, but were very successful in the others, winning the Tug-of-War and the Signalling and Alarm competitions. On Thursday we pulled the Devons, and on Friday the Buffs, only three teams having entered. In the Bayonet *v.* Bayonet competition for men not holding 1st class gymnasia certificates, Private Griffiths, "H" Company, was second, and Private Bull, "D" Company, third. Private Griffiths also took third prize in the gymnastic display. The team that won the Alarm competition was composed of men of "D" Company under Lance-Corporal Rankin.

On Saturday, 21st instant, we returned to Nowshera by special train, arriving about noon.

EXTRACTS FROM "LONDON GAZETTE."

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland) Highlanders.—Second Lieutenant Maclean is promoted to Lieutenant, *vice* Lieutenant H.P. Gordon, resigned; Second Lieutenant J. Johnston-Stewart to be Lieutenant, *vice* F. LaC. Jackson, seconded; Second Lieutenant Newall to be Lieutenant, *vice* Lieutenant H. T. Renny, resigned.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Quartermaster-Sergeant (Orderly-Room Sergeant).—No. 1826, Colour-Sergeant (O. R. S.) J. Macintosh.

To be Colour-Sergeant.—No. 932, Sergeant J. Irvine, "G" Company.

To be Sergeants.—No. 2904, Lance-Sergeant J. Stewart, "F" Company; No. 2981 Lance-Sergeant Scott, "E" Company; and No. 3616, Lance-Sergeant R. Thompson, "D" Company (Orderly-room Clerk).

To be Lance-Sergeants (Paid Establishment).—No. 2258, Corporal C. Towers, "A" Company; (*Unpaid Establishment*) No. 3037, Corporal G. Arnott; No. 3053, Corporal W. Mathew, "A" Company; and No. 3398, Corporal J. Durnan, "D" Company.

To be Corporals.—No. 3220, Lance-Corporal J. Peters, "H" Company; and No. 4129, Lance-Corporal R. Wilson, "G" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Pay Sergeants.—No. 1994, Sergeant R. Mitchell, "D" Company; No. 1756, Sergeant N. Ramage, "A" Company.

To be Canteen Sergeant.—No. 2981, Sergeant W. Scott, "E" Company.

To be Lance-Corporals (Paid Establishment).—No. 3358, Lance-Corporal T. Dodds, "C" Company; No. 3611, Lance-Corporal A. Maskell, "D" Company; No. 3809, Lance-Corporal G. Watson "A" Company; No. 4395, Lance-Corporal A. Hunter, "H" Company; and No. 3789, Lance-Corporal J. Stephens, "F" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 525, Private A. Mitchell, and No. 4397, Private E. Cody, "C" Company; No. 4590, Private J. Watson, "F" Company; and No. 3317, Private G. Choularton, "G" Company.

To be Piper.—No. 4343, Private John Maclean, "B" Company.

To be Acting Pipers.—No. 4515, Private A. Donaldson, "A" Company; and No. 4620, Private J. Fleming, "B" Company.

To be Drummers.—No. 4367, Private C. Files, "F" Company, and No. 4000, Private E. McConnell, "D" Company.

To be Acting Bandsman.—No. 4738, Private W. Speedie, "E" Company.

To be Assistant Drill Instructor.—No. 3862, Lance-Corporal J. Harvey, "G" Company.

EMPLOYMENT.

To be Assistant Orderly-room Clerk.—No. 2760, Sergeant J. Gunn, "C" Company.

To be School Assistant.—No. 3913, Lance-Corporal A. Munn, "A" Company.

To be Orderly to Church of England Chaplain.—No. 3104, Lance-Corporal H. Grosvenor, "C" Company.

Regimental Transport Assistant.—No. 3077, Corporal C. Johnston, "B" Company.

District Employment.—No. 3230, Corporal E. Chapman, "G" Company, is employed as Clerk in the D. A. G. Office, Punjab Command.

Extra Regimental Employ.—No. 4369, Corporal F. G. Fressanges, "E" Company, is placed supernumerary to the Establishment.

Caterer to Sergeants' Mess.—No. 2519, Sergeant W. Smith, "D" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following have been granted 2*d.* per diem :—

"A" Company.

No 3415, Private T. Dunmore.

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"B" Company.

No. 3338, Private R. Singleton. | No. 3323, Private A. Whitecross.
No. 3473, Private W. Hill.

"C" Company.

No. 3300, Private D. Ward. | No. 3085, Private H. Taylor.

"D" Company.

No. 3411, Lance-Corpl. T. Smith. | No. 3389, Lance-Corpl. T. Potter.
,, 3416, Private N. Stewart. | ,, 3393, Private E. Janes.
,, 3373, ,, D. Gordon. | ,, 3429, ,, A. Sewell.

"E" Company.

No. 3464, Private E. Gray. | No. 3134, Private M. Kilpatrick.
,, 3454, ,, C. King. | ,, 3460, ,, G. Broom.
,, 3459, ,, E. Stanford. | ,, 3463, ,, W. Wellington.
,, 3425, ,, G. Lock. | ,, 3436, ,, C. Tipping.
,, 3150, ,, T. Clarke. | ,, 3448, ,, T. Hyland.
,, 2106, ,, E. Ogden. | ,, 3472, ,, A. Black.

"F" Company.

No. 3424, Private H. Bailey.

"G" Company.

No. 2820, Lance-Corpl. A. Robb. | No. 3403, Private J. Brown.
,, 3382, Private A. Nixon. | ,, 3386, ,, F. Welsh.
No. 3429, Private J. Sewell.

"H" Company.

No. 3384, Private W. Pearson. | No. 3472, Private W. Gilfin.
,, 3400, ,, E. Smith. | ,, 3374, ,, J. Leighton.
No. 3423, Prvate W. Glossop.

Restored 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 1782, Drummer Walker.

"D" Company.

No. 2812, Pte. D. McIntosh. | No. 3004, Pte. R Munro.

"G" Company.

No. 2817, Private S. Wiggins.

"H" Company.

No. 2934, Private J. Lynch. | No. 3489, Private T. McWilliams.

Granted 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 4922, Private R. Green. | No. 5031, Private R. McKay.
4979, ,, W. Clark. | ,, 4978, ,, A. Dale.
,, 4526, ,, W. Watt. | ,, 5052, ,, J. McLachlan.
No. 5050, Private J. Britton.

"B" Company.

No. 4961, Private P. Malone. | No. 4979, Private M. Mossman.
,, 4980, ,, A. Ferguson. | ,, 4900, ,, W. McGregor

"C" Company.

No. 4942, Private J. Brodie. | No. 4874, Private P. Gibson.
,, 3924, ,, H. McMillan. | ,, 5008, ,, J. Young.
,, 5033, ,, R. McGregor. | ,, 3214, ,, G. Stanley.

"D" Company.

No. 3426, Private S. Brooks.

"E" Company.

No. 4963, Private M. Rutherford. | No. 4505, Private J. Parnes.
,, 4588, ,, C. Buchan. | ,, 5021, ,, G. Duncan.
,, 4562, ,, J. Hume. | ,, 4552, ,, D. Clark.

"F" Company.

No. 4994, Private J. Gentles.

"G" Company.

No. 4907, Private J. Cosgrove. | No. 4976, Private F. Forbes.

"H" Company.

No. 4059, Private J. McNulty. | No. 3390, Private E. Young.
No. 4967, Private G. Scar.

Restored 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 3813, Private R. Meikleham. | No. 3067, Private D. J. Smith.
No. 3235, Private T. Adams.

"B" Company.

No. 3944, Private W. Friend. | No. 4296, Private W. Ewing.
,, 4161, ,, H. Stadams. | ,, 3553, ,, A. Selley.
,, 3843, ,, J. Barton. | ,, 3030, ,, A. Huggins.

"C" Company.

No. 4501, Private J. Mackenzie. | No. 3032, Private E. Gray.
,, 4092, ,, J. White. | ,, 4310, ,, R. French.
,, 3567, ,, W. Hatt. | ,, 3254, ,, J. Hamilton.

"D" Company.

No. 3687, Private F. Rankin. | No. 3102, Private J. McDonald,
,, 4028, ,, W. Martin. | ,, 4313, ,, J. Ferguson.
,, 3992, ,, A. Thomson. | ,, 3368, ,, H. Nicholson.

"E" Company.

No. 2296, Private E. Baxter. | No. 4033, Private J. Forrester.
,, 4078, ,, F. Hill. | ,, 3956, ,, G. Wilson.
,, 3968, ,, A. Brown. | ,, 3469, ,, A. Hamilton.

"F" Company.

No. 3731, Private A. Shefford. | No. 3238, Private H. McBrain.
No. 4800, Private A. Moran.

"G" Company.

No. 3849, Drummer J. Duff. | No. 4318, Private J. McAllister

"H" Company.

No. 2455, Private W. Smith. | No. 4834, Private D. Carr.
,, 3912, ,, J. McAllister. | ,, 3738, ,, A. Sutton.
,, 3131, ,, J. Murphy. | ,, 4262, ,, A. Wilson.
No. 3652, Private H. McClymont.

Re-Engagements and Extensions of Service.

The following has been permitted to re-engage for 21 years with the Colors :—

No. 1588, Private H. McPake, "F" Company.

The following have been permitted to extend their srevice to serve twelve years with the Colours :—

No. 2930, Scrgeant J. Dawson, "H" Company.
,, 3116, ,, W. R. Weller, "G" ,,
,, 3071, Lance-Sergeant R. Paton, "E" ,,
,, 4397, Lance-Corporal E. Cody, "E" ,,
,, 2987, Private D. McDonald, "H" ,,
,, 2756, ,, C. McCulloch, "G" ,,

For appointment as Drummer or Piper :—

No. 4343, Private J. McLean, "B" ,,
,, 4367, ,, C. Files, "F" ,,
,, 4000, ,, E. McConnell, "D" ,,

—:o:—

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENTS.

Casuals.

		£	s.	d.
No. 4292, Private R. Stirrett	...	0	8	0
,, 3840, ,, J. McCarthy, "G" Company...	...	0	7	0
,, 3049, ,, D. Ferguson, "A" ,, ...	...	0	6	0
,, 3048, ,, C. Kerr, "A" ,, ...	...	0	6	0
,, 4868, ,, H. Gifford, "A" ,, ...	...	0	5	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section.				
No. 3086, Sergeant J. Middleby, "G" Company ...	...	0	4	0
Commander of Second Best Section.				
No. 1980, Sergeant J. Mackie, "G" Company ...	...	0	2	0

Casuals.

No. 3117, Private W. Downie, "D" Company	...	0	12	0
,, 4080, ,, J. Baker, "C" ,,	...	0	8	0
,, 2879, ,, J. Lessels, "C" ,,	...	0	8	0
,, 3088, Lance-Corporal A. Kettles, "C" ,,	...	0	7	0
,, 884, Private J. Bulloch, "E" ,,	...	0	5	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section.				
No. 1645, Sergeant J. Pringle, "C" Company ...	...	0	5	0
Commander of Second Best Section.				
No. 1994, Sergeant R. Mitchell, "F" Company ...	...	0	2	6

Casuals.

No. 4275, Private C. Mills, "C" Company	...	0	16	0
,, 3206, ,, S. Stroud, "H" ,,	...	0	13	0
,, 2803, ,, W. Young, "G" ,,	...	0	11	0
,, 3814, ,, H. Baillie, "A" ,,	...	0	8	0
,, 2058, ,, J. Coutts, "G" ,,	...	0	8	0
,, 2757, Corporal T. Pagon, "G" ,,	...	0	7	0
,, 3318, ,, T. Hynch, "G" ,,	...	0	7	0
,, 2754, Private F. Duncanson, "F" ,,	...	0	7	0
,, 2919, ,, J. Jamieson, "G" ,,	...	0	6	0
,, 3771, ,, G. Emmett, "G" ,,	...	0	6	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section.				
No. 3611, Corporal J. Stobbie, "G" Company ...	...	0	11	0
Commander of Second Best Section.				
No. 497, Colour-Sergeant J. Wight	...	0	5	6
"B" Company.				
No. 3236, Corporal R. Millar	...	0	15	0
,, 3077, ,, C. Johnstone	...	0	10	0
,, 3005, Lance-Sergeant A. MacDonald	...	0	10	0
,, 2890, Private J. Brand	...	0	7	0
,, 3323, ,, R. Singleton	...	0	7	0
,, 3764, ,, J. Adcock	...	0	7	0
,, 3705, ,, T. Kitchener	...	0	7	0
,, 3735, ,, A. Hollingbery	...	0	5	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section.				
No. 3236, Corporal R. Millar	...	0	8	3
Commander of Second Best Section.				
No. 2503, Sergeant W. Maxwell	...	0	4	1½

Casuals.

No. 3863, Private C. McWhirter, "F" Company...	...	0	10	0
,, 3260, ,, A. Royffe, "A" ,, ...	...	0	7	0
,, 3382, ,, A. Nixon, "G" ,, ...	...	0	5	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section.				
No. 2045, Sergeant F. Meston "E" Comdany ...	...	0	2	9
Commander of Second Best Section.				
No. 3535, Corporal J. Richmond "C" Company ...	...	0	1	4½

Casuals.

No. 3505, Private J. Ogilvie, "F" Company...	...	0	10	0
,, 5265, ,, A. Hamilton, "F" ,, ...	...	0	7	0
,, 3753, ,, E. Brockwell, "F" ,, ...	...	0	5	0
,, 3098, ,, H. Docherty, "C" ,, ...	...	0	5	0

Casuals.

No. 4343, Piper J. McLean, "B" Company ...	...	0	6	½
,, 4296, Private W. Ewing, "B" ,, ...	...	0	4	4

Professional Examinations.

The following have passed for the rank of Sergeant :—

No. 2430, Corporal A. Millar, "F" Company.
,, 3775, ,, G. Forbes, "F" ,,

Educational Certificates.

The following have been granted First Class Certificates of Education :—

No. 1826, Colour-Sergeant J. Macintosh, "C" Company.
,, 4395, Lance-Corporal A. Hunter, "H" ,,
,, 3927, Private W. Walker, "A" Company, Group I.

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Granted Second Class Certificates :—

No. 2459, Lance-Corporal E. Lillywhite, "B" Company,
,, 4632, Private J. Fitchett, "E" ,,
,, 3530, ,, T. Hickman, "H" ,,

Granted Third Class Certificates :—

No. 4143, Lance-Corporal C. Charters, "F" ,,
,, 4045, Private H. Kelley, "G" ,,
,, 2951, ,, H. Bryson, "H" ,,
,, 3269, ,, W. Upton, "G" ,,
,, 3134, ,, M. Kilpatrick, "E" Company.

CERTIFICATES.

School of Musketry Certificate.—No. 1529, Color-Sergeant H. Bush, "H" Company, has been granted a certificate qualifying him for Sergeant Instructor of Musketry to a Battalion.

Telegraphy Certificate.—No. 3926, Private C. Ayres, "D" Company has been granted a Government Telegraphy Certificate.

Transport Certificate.—No. 4998, Lance-Corporal Hunter, "H" Company.

THE DRAFT.

The following from the home battalion have been posted as under :—

No. 624, Sergeant P. Campbell, "C" Company.
,, 2627, ,, J. Stewart, "D" ,,
,, 3306, Corporal A. Lockie, "B" ,,
,, 2074, ,, D. Shaw, "E" ,,

"A" Company.

No. 4789,	Pte.	J. Sheridan.	No. 4985,	Pte.	J. Lillie.
,, 4975,	,,	J. Clarke.	,, 4978,	,,	A. Dale.
,, 5007,	,,	J. Wallace.	,, 5022,	,,	J. McLachlan.
,, 5032,	,,	R. Mackay.	,, 5048,	,,	T. Hammie.
,, 5050,	,,	J. Britton.	,, 5060,	,,	J. Kelley.
,, 5087,	,,	J. Hunter.	,, 5093,	,,	J. McIlroy.
,, 5168,	,,	R. McCullum.	,, 5070,	,,	J. Jamieson.

"B" Company.

No. 4721,	,,	J. Wyllie.	No. 4835,	,,	D. O'Brien.
,, 4873,	,,	J. Maloney.	,, 4962,	,,	J. Henry.
,, 4979,	,,	J. Mossman.	,, 4980,	,,	A. Ferguson.
,, 4981,	,,	P. Malone.	,, 5032,	,,	R. Hunter.
,, 5065,	,,	J. Halkerstone.	,, 5107,	,,	J. McMenenie.
,, 5227,	,,	R. Hyslop.	,, 5252,	,,	L. Ferguson.
,, 5254,	,,	W. Stewart.	,, 5079,	,,	L. McGilvray.

"C" Company.

No. 4384,	,,	J. Scott.	No. 4961,	,,	G. Russell.
,, 4974,	,,	P. Gibson.	,, 4975,	,,	J. Harley.
,, 4940,	,,	J. Kerr.	,, 4942,	,,	J. Brodie.
,, 4948,	,,	J. Clements.	,, 4972,	,,	J. Harper.
,, 4969,	,,	G. Kerr.	,, 4996,	,,	C. Wilson.
,, 5006,	,,	J. Young.	,, 5033,	,,	R. McGregor.
,, 5044,	,,	J. McMahon.	,, 5099,	,,	A. Forrest.

"D" Company.

No. 4848,	,,	J. McEwan.	No. 5112,	,,	H. Crawford.
,, 5113,	,,	J. McInnes.	,, 5116,	,,	A. McDonald.
,, 5122,	,,	J. Campbell.	,, 5129,	,,	H. McLean.
,, 5163,	,,	G. Allen.	,, 5182,	,,	F. Morrison.
,, 5194,	,,	H. Brown.	,, 5196,	,,	G. Marshall.
,, 5202,	,,	W. Cayle.	,, 5205,	,,	R. Cross.
,, 5191,	,,	M. Allen.	,, 5260,	,,	P. Smith.
,, 5193,	,,	G. Henderson.			

"E" Company.

No. 4456,	,,	C. Classon.	No. 4520,	,,	R. Boyd.
,, 4835,	,,	G. Clarkson.	,, 4763,	,,	J. Patterson.
,, 4956,	,,	J. Collins.	,, 4983,	,,	N. Rutherford.
,, 4984,	,,	J. Douglas.	,, 5021,	,,	G. Duncan.
,, 5118,	,,	J. McLean.	,, 5125,	,,	J. Healy.
,, 5128,	,,	J. Cairns.	,, 5196,	,,	T. Dale.

"F" Company.

No. 4558,	,,	G. Ross.	No. 4800,	,,	G. Moran.
,, 4801,	,,	W. Anderson.	,, 4826,	,,	D. Richardson.
,, 4924,	,,	A. Gibson.	,, 4994,	,,	J. Gentles.
,, 5000,	,,	J. McKay.	,, 5006,	,,	W. Warnock.
,, 5132,	,,	T. Wainwright.	,, 5134,	,,	R. Lightbody.
,, 5219,	,,	M. Sutherland.	,, 5229,	,,	M. Saunders.
,, 5232,	,,	J. McNeill.	,, 5236,	,,	R. Brown.
,, 5263,	,,	R. Duncan.	,, 5053,	,,	J. Martin.

"G" Company.

No. 4453,	,,	R. Frew.	No. 4747,	,,	R. Armit.
,, 4805,	,,	W. Norrie,	,, 4901,	,,	J. Duffy.
,, 4895,	,,	E. Kelley.	,, 4914,	,,	J. Kerr.
,, 4925,	,,	J. McNell.	,, 4957,	,,	G. Gilbert,
,, 4971,	,,	P. Morrison.	,, 4987,	,,	J. Gilmour.
,, 5002,	,,	J. Bennett.	,, 4976,	,,	F. Forbes.

"H" Company.

No. 3876,	,,	G. McNeil.	No. 4834,	,,	D. Carr.
,, 4923,	,,	H. McTaggart.	,, 4883,	,,	J. Turner.
,, 4794,	,,	W. Strachan.	,, 4871,	,,	A. Wright.
,, 4876,	,,	W. McCullum.	,, 4945,	,,	D. McPherson.
,, 5089,	,,	M. Duncan.	,, 5090,	,,	J. Muckan.
,, 5148,	,,	H. Whyte.	,, 5149,	,,	J. McNair.
,, 5150,	,,	R. Thornton.	,, 5166,	,,	J. Jamieson.
,, 5160,	,,	D. Perston.	,, 5200,	,,	H. Thomson.
,, 5230,	,,	D. Tardley.	,, 5243,	,,	H. Lawrie.
,, 5068,	,,	G. Watt.			

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With postage home, or to any country in the Postal Union, non-commissioned officers and men of the Regiment. } Rs. 2 per annum.

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NOTA BENE.

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *The Thin Red Line.*

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 20th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly, in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

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May 1896.

The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 2—Vol. III. NOWSHERA,—MAY 1896. Price, 2 Annas

SKIRLS

THE summer is again returning, and with the exception of the last two drafts and some invalids who will go to Chirat, and a few others who may be lucky enough to be sent to other hill stations, the majority of the regiment will spend this summer on the plains. A party of thirty men under 2nd Lieutenant Elphinston is already away to Dalhousie, whilst some of the married families have left to spend the summer on the Murree Hills.

* * * * * *

The hot weather would not appear to be of such long duration here as at Mian Mir, for although the heat is sensibly increasing, and is at present over 90° in the shade, the temperature cannot be compared with last year's experience, when, at the end of April, all were gasping under the punkah, a luxury we shall not be able to indulge in for some considerable time yet according to all reports. However, it is quite warm enough for all parades to be over before breakfast, and "all khaki" clothing to be duly appreciated at any hour of the twenty-four.

* * * * * *

"E" Company have this year become the lucky—advisedly lucky—possessors of the Football Clock, after beating "F" Company, with whom they tied in the League competition, by one goal to *nil*. The Cricket League fixtures will not take place for the present, as the weather is now much too hot for an all-day game.

* * * * * *

The annual Highland games took place on the race-course on the afternoons of the 9th and 10th ultimo and were very successful. Captain Moulton-Barrett's Physical Drill Shield went to "H" Company. "D" Company won the Tug-of-war after a splendid pull.

* * * * * *

A gymkhana took place on the day following.

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The last draft from home arrived at Nowshera on the night of the 7th ultimo. Captain H. d'E. Vallancey and 2nd Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean brought the draft out on board the *Malabar*, the last trip to India of this troopship. Its strength consisted of fifty-eight rank and file, Sergeant Soutar and Lance-Sergeant Vicars. The "Furlough" draft is the name suggested for it by the "Parrot."

* * * * * *

The musketry activity of the battalion has been very great during the last month as the last two drafts are to be exercised before going to the hills. "C" Company has also fired and "B" Company have commenced. An entirely new prize scheme is introduced this year and should have satisfactory results. Cordite is to be used for all distances except 200 yards, and according to the new Musketry Regulations the "Individual Attack" practice is done away with and ten points taken off the total required to qualify for marksman, first class shot, &c.

* * * * * *

After a long silence the Regimental Thespians have made an appearance upon the Nowshera stage. The programme submitted on the evenings of the 23rd and 24th ultimo was deservedly appreciated by the large audiences who flooded the theatre on both nights. Variety was the first part of the entertainment, after which followed "The Area Belle" which, or who, exceeded all expectations. Our Dramatic Critic has fortunately come forward with an account of this performance and thus relieves us of an overwhelming responsibility.

* * * * * *

The late Editor of *The Sprig* is to be congratulated upon his new venture *The Regiment*, as it explains itself to be "an Illustrated Military Journal for everybody." No. 1 is to hand teeming with humorous sketches and anecdotes, together with more substantial matter and first class illustrations. The price is only the modest penny.

* * * * * *

We congratulate our Home Battalion upon winning "The Aldershot News Cup," defeating the East Lancashire Regiment by two goals to *nil*. The trophy is a handsome one, and some small recompense for having been beaten in the Army Cup tie.

* * * * * *

Another "thin red line" hero has gone to his long rest—

From the *Glasgow Evening News* :—

Another of the Crimean veterans has passed way in the person of Robert Wilson, who died at his residence, 14 North St. Mungo Street on Sunday morning. A native of the Carrick quarter of Ayrshire, he took the Queen's shilling, while still a youth, in the 93rd Highlanders, and, under the leadership of Sir Colin, bore the brunt of the Crimea, being at Alma and also taking part in the famous stand of the thin red line of Balaclava. After the fall of Sebastopol he was again drafted to foreign service in our Indian Empire, being in the Relief of Lucknow. From the time of his discharge till his death he was in the employment of Messrs. Blackie & Son (Limited), who retained his services in spite of his failing health.

* * * * * *

We notice that a certain esteemed contemporary in recounting the inconvenience and hardships of the Ashanti Campaign, mentioned that the temperature was 95° in the shade in that salubrious clime, and that as regards heat India was "not in it." This is a statement that will hardly hold water when it is remembered that as many as 121° was registered in the shade last summer in the Punjab. A regiment which left India only a few months ago should not let its correspondents "chance it" like this.

* * * * * *

A daring robbery was perpetrated some time during the early morning of the 13th ultimo, "H" Company's bungalow being the scene of the loss. About thirteen pairs of shoes were stolen together with clothing and other things, whilst the belt and side-arms belonging to Private Carr also disappeared. No correct time can be assigned for the robbery, as the thieves appear to have abstracted all the articles quite noiselessly, and no man in the bungalow had the least suspicion that anything was wrong until *reveillé* when the articles were found missing. Half the bungalow was unoccupied, and it seems that the doors of this half had been left open during the night, the thieves thus having easy entry to the bungalow and

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being able to decamp without noise, or suspicion being in any way aroused.

* * * * * *

A couple of tennis courts have been constructed behind the Sergeants' Mess, and tennis every evening is now the thing.

* * * * * *

The Sergeants had another musical "At Home" in the Mess-room on the evening of the 22nd ultimo. The Band String Orchestra, as on a former occasion, gave a most pleasing selection, with a trombone, euphonium, and cornet solo, an amusing quartette by Lance-Corporal Walsh and Bandsmen Benson, Lyons and Hickman, Bandsman Benson sang very nicely, Bandsman Lyons supplied the comic element, and Bandsman Crawford recited twice. Drum-Major Jackson and Sergeant Meston also assisted the vocal part of the entertainment which was most successful. Altogether the entertainment reflects great credit upon the Managing Committee, Sergeants J. Gunn and Chaplin.

Bandmaster Davies was of course responsible for the instrumental portion and its excellence.

* * * * * *

By quite an oversight it was forgotten last month to acknowledge "every good wish for Christmas and the New Year from John Mackay" together with "kind remembrances to all" and a pretty view of the Mackay country at Melvich "Where the gallant 93rd were first raised." Haste is now made to rectify this apparent discourtesy and to return, although late in the year, equal good wishes to the *Celtic Monthly* and its Editor.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant A. Sutherland has been granted a Transport Certificate.

* * * * * *

It should also have been mentioned in our last number that Color-Sergeant J. Wight left the battalion in December last to join one of our volunteer battalions as instructor. Color Sergeant Wight (Auld Jamie) was one of the fathers of the regiment having been with us since 1880, with the rank of Color Sergeant since 1889. Before leaving for home a gold ring suitably inscribed was sent him, together with a purse, and good wishes from his brother Sergeants.

* * * * * *

During "C" Company's course of musketry Color-Sergeant T. A. Swan made the "possible" at seven hundred yards.

* * * * * *

Private J. Mitchell (Geordie), "A" Company' is "Regimental Shot" for the musketry year of 1895-96. Corporals C. Johnstone and R. Miller, "B" Company, holding second and third places.

* * * * * *

"E" Company have returned from detachment duty at Fort Attock, "G" Company relieving them. The companies proceeded and returned by road, marching in the early morning only owing to the heat of the weather during the day. Both companies marched well and there were few casualties.

* * * * * *

At the Sirhind District Assault-at-Arms, held at Umballa last winter, Lance-Corporal H. Williams, who was then undergoing a course of instruction in the Central Gymnasium there, carried off the first prize—a silver watch—in the Gymnastic Competition, the Staff Instructors of the School competing against him. It is needless to say, Lance-Corporal Williams when passing out did so at the head of the class.

* * * * * *

Most of the Malakand, and some of the Chitral reliefs were effected last month, all troops passing through Nowshera. On the 4th the 24th Punjab Infantry, and on the 6th the 45th (Rattray's) Sikhs arrived, and accompanied by a Company of Bengal Sappers and Miners, proceeded to Hoti Mardan, *en route* to the Malakand, on the 8th. The relieved regiments, the 15th Sikhs and 29th Punjab Infantry, passed through during the 16th to 18th, with the latter being Lieutenant W. G. P. Murray, who passed his probation with us, looking fit and bronzed. Midnight of the 25th saw the 2-5th Goorkhas on their way to Mardan, the 28th Punjab Infantry having proceeded them on the road a few hours. Both march to Kila Drosh, and it will be at least a month before these far away reliefs can be effected and the relieved regiments return to India.

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Sport in Somali Land.

An Elephant Hunt.

—o—

FOR three or four days I had been looking for elephants' tracks in the country south of the Harrowa Valley, but though we found some spoor it was at least four days old, and the herd had merely passed through that tract of country, heading in a southerly direction. Knowing that they were probably making for water, we also turned towards the south, and on the night of the 17th October camped near some *karias* where we hoped we might get some reliable *khabar*. I remained in camp on the 18th, but sent out men in several directions to prospect. In the evening they returned saying they had found, in one direction, tracks about a day and a half old, and my head shikari also came in to say he had met a man who had come down from the Harrowa Valley, to see if he could find any elephants in the country we were then in, as there were none in his own valley. Hearing this and having news of comparatively recent tracks, it was pretty clear there was a herd somewhere about, and I determined to see if I could not come across them, though I feared this might prove somewhat difficult, as elephants are great travellers and there were several watering places near there, somewhat widely separated one from the other. Early on the morning of the 19th I moved camp in a south-west direction, and about 9 o'clock came on some tracks of the previous day. I immediately returned to camp and sent out men to follow up these tracks; I also sent two more in another direction, while I waited in camp for news. At about four in the afternoon the men I had sent to follow up the tracks we had seen in the morning came in and reported having found the elephants some five miles off. Late as it was we started and went to where they had seen the herd, but when we got to the spot the elephants had moved on. It was too late to follow them that night, so we returned to camp, but as the tracks led towards one of the watering places, we had great hopes of falling in with the herd next day. At daybreak on the 20th, I sent out two men on horseback to endeavour to find the tracks of the herd between the water they were making for and the place we had left them the previous evening, while I followed half an hour later with my two shikaries and a camelman named Mahommed Ahmed. After riding for nearly an hour we met the men who had been sent on; they had found the tracks and reported having heard but not seen the elephants. The two shikaries then took up the spoor, while the other men followed some two hundred yards in rear. The tracks now turned towards the north, and, crossing some slightly rising ground, led us into thick scrub jungle with a dense undergrowth of prickly aloe, a plant of which the elephant is very fond.

After following the trail for about an hour, I halted under a big tree and sent two mounted Somalies off to the right, while my shikaries went forward in the direction the herd had taken. In about a quarter of an hour the two horsemen came back saying they had actually seen the elephants. My shikaries turned up five minutes later having seen nothing, so we went on at once, following the two horsemen towards where they had sighted the herd, which had again moved on, feeding as they went, as on all sides we could see the long bayonet-pointed leaves of the aloes lying broken on the ground. In about half an hour we came up to the herd at last; they were about eighty yards off, scattered, and feeding slowly away from us. Turning to our left we endeavoured to make a detour and get in front of them, and now began about the very hardest half hour's work I ever remember when shooting. It was now about eleven, the sun unpleasantly hot, and the ground we had to traverse was much broken and covered with prickly aloes, while the thorn jungle was not dense enough to give any shade; in addition to all this the elephants began to move off at a steady walk, they were evidently beginning to be slightly alarmed at something, but, as we had the wind in our favour, we knew they could locate nothing. The herd had now broken up into three or four small groups, all moving in the same direction, stopping every now and again to feed, we meanwhile keeping parallel to them down wind and about eighty yards off. There was one bull with considerably bigger tusks than any other in the herd, and this one I resolved to secure, if possible, but, for a good half hour I could not get a chance at him, do what I would. The whole of the elephants kept moving steadily onwards, feeding occasionally as they went, but never stopping long enough to enable me to approach sufficiently close for a shot. What increased my difficulties was the fact that the herd had, as I have already stated, split up into three small groups, and we had to watch not only the lot in which was the bull I was manœuvring to get a shot at, but the rest as well, as they kept close together, and an incautious move, whilst stalking the big tusker one, might have discovered us to one or other of the remaining lots. More than once I could have got a shot at a smaller bull, but I was resolved that the big one should be mine if possible. At last my chance came. The lot he was in was crossing a small open space in the jungle, and the bull with the big tusks

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stopped to feed on the branches of a small tree, exposing his left side at about sixty yards off. I sat down and fired the 4-bore, aiming just behind the shoulder. When the smoke cleared away, I saw him moving slowly forward apparently hit, but I had no time to watch him any longer, as the rest of the lot he was with turned in our direction, and began to come at a half walk, half run, straight towards us. They did not know where we were, not having got our wind, and were coming our way quite by chance, but we had to clear out of their road at our best pace, which we at once did. I kept the other barrel of the 4-bore in reserve, while my two shikaries endeavoured to turn the herd by firing at them with my 8 and 12-bore rifles. After going for about two hundred yards the elephants, to our great relief, turned off to their right. I was pretty well pumped by the run I had just had, about two hundred yards through and over thick aloe bushes, carrying a double 4-bore rifle, weighing a trifle of some twenty-two lbs. but to my great relief my *syce* now turned up with the pony having come on at once on hearing the shots. We at once proceeded to follow up the elephants, but by the time I had reloaded the 4-bore, mounted, and got the pony going, my shikaries were nearly a hundred yards ahead of me, and before I caught them up I heard one of them fire my 8-bore; then, to my great joy, I saw the tusker I had fired at going along very slowly, his head hanging down and his whole body rolling from side to side looking, in fact, exactly as if he had been knocked down half stunned and received a tremendous thrashing from an elephant bigger than himself, and was only just recovering; such, at least, was the impression he produced on me. Hastily dismounting I got another shot at him with the 4-bore as he was going between two trees about thirty-five yards off. This shot (as we afterwards found out) hit him rather far back, but, as he was then going slightly away from me, must have raked forward into his vitals. He still held on, however, after receiving it, but, after going another hundred yards or so, my second shikari, who was just in front of me, suddenly gave a yell of *girgaya*, *girgaya* (he's down, he's down), and on going up to him I saw the tusker lying on his left side about fifty yards further on. He was still moving, so I gave him another shot in the head with the 8-bore, which completely finished him. We had no time then to examine our prize, but at once went on again after the elephants in hopes of finding another bull. We soon came up with one lot, but there was nothing but cows and calves, no bull amongst them, so we went on after the third lot. These we came up within about ten minutes. My mounted Somalies having very cleverly headed off the herd and driven them towards us. This lot we followed for about ten or fifteen minutes without seeing any bull, and a pretty exciting time we had, as the elephants, driven by the mounted Somalies and kept by them from getting away, were rushing wildly through the jungle, keeping in a compact mass and going straight ahead, through and over bushes, trees and anything in their way, and we had to dodge whenever they came near us. The rear was brought up by one enormous cow and her calf, she seemed inclined to be vicious and kept looking round about her for the cause of the disturbance. There was no bull in this lot either, so we had to leave them also, and so ended my first elephant hunt. On questioning my mounted Somalies they said that just after I had fired at the tusker the first time, they had seen two smaller bulls and about three cows going off by themselves in a different direction, and as I had only seen three bulls in all, including the one I had shot, it appeared pretty certain they had escaped us. I was very well pleased, however, with my luck in getting the best bull of the herd. His tusks, though nothing much for those of the African elephant, were very fair for that part of Somali land, where the elephants do not grow nearly such large tusks as those of further south.

M. McNEILL.

You groan and moan, then shout with fright,
And yell and cry like angry cats,
And waken oft throughout the night,
You know the symptoms reader?—Rats!

—o—

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THE THIN RED LINE.

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Recognition of a Rothesay Crimean Veteran.

—o—

DANIEL DUNCAN, badge porter No. 1, who served in the 93rd Highlanders through the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny, has had his pension increased from eightpence to fourteenpence per day. Duncan, as we have mentioned on former occasions, was one of the famous "thin red line" at Balaclava, and was also one of the ten men of the 93rd who volunteered to enter the Redan, which fact is duly recorded in "Burgoyne's Historical Records of the Regiment" published in 1883. The present addition to Duncan's pension has been obtained through the efforts of General Ewart, a former officer of the 93rd, under whom he served both in the Crimea and Indian Mutiny. General Ewart, then a Lieut.-Colonel, was himself severely wounded at the Relief of Lucknow, but killed eight men with his own hand in the encounter, and captured one of the enemy's colours. This incident occurred in the attack on the Secundrabagh. The following letters received by Duncan the other day from General Ewart will be read with interest:—

"20 CIRCUS, BATH, SOMERSET,
20th Feby. 1896.

"To Daniel Duncan,

"Late 93rd Highlanders.

"Early in the month of December I strongly recommended you, under a special clause in the Pension Warrant, to Viscount Wolseley, now Commander-in-Chief of the Army, for an increase to your pension, in consideration of your having entered the Redan as a volunteer on the night of the 8th Sept. 1855.

"No reply of any sort has reached me until to-day, but I am now glad to be able to send you the enclosed official letter which arrived this morning. You will see by it that your pension has been raised from 8*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.* a day, so you will receive 6*d.* a day more from the 7th of the present month.

"I am very glad to have been able to get this done for you, and hope it will add to your comfort now that you are getting on in years.

"I was present when you so pluckily volunteered, and so could testify to your gallant conduct.

J. A. EWART, *General.*"

"ROYAL HOSPITAL, CHELSSEA, S.W.,
Secretary's Office, 19*th Feb.* 1896.

Daniel Duncan, 79th foot, No. 1 Shore Porter, Rothesay, N.B.

"SIR,—I am directed by the Lords and other Commissioners of this Hospital to state, in reply to your application in behalf of the man named in the margin, received at this Office on 11th December last, through the War Department, that thay have been pleased, under the circumstances of his case, to increase his pension from 8*d.* to 14*d.* a day for his gallant conduct on night of 8th September 1855, at the Redan, and that the necessary instructions will be issued for payment thereof in the usual manner, such increase to take effect from the 7th February 1896.

"(Sd.) C. W. ROBINSON.

"Gen. Sir J. A. EWART, K.C.B., Bath."

It may be explained that Duncan enlisted in the 79th Highlanders, but volunteered into the 93rd on the outbreak of the Crimean War. After the Indian Mutiny he rejoined the 79th.—*The Rothesay Express.*

What the Parrot is Saging.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it].

THAT it's jist gettin' gey het.
That it cad weel dae' wi' a punka'
That "E" troop can consider themsels vera lucky.
That the sports wis rale guid this year.
That the last draft hae arrived, a' richt.
That the "Area Belle" wis jist chairmin.'
That it didna' ken Walker Chalks ava.
That his mak up wis guid indeed.
That it would like tae see a few mair gaffs noo they've started.
That "H" Company are keepin' all the guid things tae theirsels'.
That the Sergeants seem unco energetic atween sax and seeven o'clock evera evenin'.
That there's a secret in its heairt——(Here, chuck it. Ed.)
That it's auld claethes are goin cheap.
That things are vera "cushi" just noo.
That "H" Company shouldna suffer frae the dingy nex' cauld weather.

———:o:———

Parted.

—o—

On Returning an Old Tunic to Stores.

AND must we part, my well-worn friend!
My bosom heaves a sigh,
To think of all the joys we shared
In days, alas! gone by;
You shared in all my sorrows too,
A story you could tell,
But you were mute, the better friend,
And thus, indeed, 'twas well.

In weather wet, and weather dry,
You were an ample shield;
A friend in need, a friend indeed,
On mountain, flood, and field,
You felt me in my varied moods.
When blightsome, grave, or gay.
In you I placed implicit trust,
That trust you'll ne'er betray.

When I was by my true love's side,
You felt my bosom throb;
Oh, when I'd take a sad farewell,
You felt my stifled sob;
And often by her youthful head,
Was your full bosom prest,
And often has her pretty tears
Bedewed your faded breast.

A thing of beauty is a joy,
"The Sages say" for ever;
Methinks their theories are false,
And you and I must sever;
You came forth from the tailor's hand
Fresh, and you fitted easy,
But like your master, now you're "tight,"
And faded, worn, and greasy.

The Sprig of Shillelagh.

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The Annual Games.

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THE annual regimental games this year had been postponed owing to it being somewhat late in the season before the whole regiment could be got together, and then the more serious pleasures of the drill season and General's inspection required all attention, and after that the move to Peshawar for the divisional manœuvres.

However, on the 9th and 10th of last month the gathering took place, and was certainly, although late, by no means least, compared with other years. Summer weather having commenced, most events took place during the early morning or after four o'clock in the afternoon, except the boxing, the preliminary heats of which were fought out in the gymnasium, commencing at two. The sports ground had been selected in a shady corner within the race-course surrounded by trees, where shelter at least for the spectators could be obtained, and for a couple of days previously fatigue parties under Sergeant J. H. Symcox prepared the ground for all the various competitions; marking out the course for flat races with gaily-coloured flags, planting hurdles, digging ditches, rigging up obstructions for those hardy enough to enter for the obstacle race, and pitching tents for coffee-shop, and Officers' and Sergeants' messes, both of which dispensed hospitality to their visitors. The Committee deserve the greatest praise for the excellent arrangements made, event following event without the wearisome waits that so frequently occur. The handicappers, as was only to be expected, did not give every one satisfaction, but it being their initial effort, and as many of the competitors were comparatively unknown men, their task was by no means a light one, and any criticism would be perhaps hardly fair.

All events were well contested, and if anything calls for special mention, it is the pull in the Tug-of-War between "A" and "B" Companies, decided on the first morning, which caused the latter team to become at once favourites; they however succumbed to "H" Company in the semi-final, when a considerable amount of money changed hands. The final between "D" and "H" was splendidly contested, but the better team undoubtedly won.

The most successful performer during the two days was unquestionably Private Brydone, "D" Company, who won no less than five first prizes, all "strong men" events, but the rules prohibited any man from taking more than two first prizes and three seconds, or five prizes in all, so three of his firsts had to be handed over to the next best man.

Lance-Corporal J. Reid, however, had he been competing, would have taken first with the light shot, as with an exhibition "put" afterwards he covered 36 feet 3½ inches at the first try, 2 feet 3½ inches more than the winner.

The light weight boxing produced some very good bouts, bringing out a very clever performer in Private Stadams, "B" Company, who, however, had to succumb to Private Griffiths, "H" Company, a heavier and cleverer man, who scaled the limit against 9st. 12lbs of his opponent. Private Devereux won the catch weights as Private Auld disabled his hand and scratched. On the second day the open event—two hundred and twenty yards,—caused considerable excitement. Private Adcock was not, unfortunately, in his best form owing to his old enemy the "dingy," but ran level with Lance-Corporal Cooper "The Buffs," an old Calcutta performer, until within fifty yards from home when his opponent forged ahead and won by just over two feet; it could easily be seen that Adcock was not in his proper form, though he had won the hundred yards the day before, as he ran himself out and fell just over the tape. The time was very good considering the ground, being 24 seconds, the time for the hundred yards was said to be 10⅕ seconds.

For the Physical Drill Shield, presented by Captain H. P. Moulton-Barrett, five Companies entered teams, "B," "D," "F," (the holders), "G," and "H," the latter being declared winners by two points only. The competition was for the first time in "drill order, shirt sleeves" and all the teams looked very workmanlike.

A large share of the prize money went to "B" Company, who secured all three places in two events, (the half mile and the long jump.) In all eleven firsts and fifteen seconds went to Lieutenant Newall's temporary command.

Bayonet fighting between teams of four men and a non-commissioned officer, was well contested. In the semi-final between "A" and "B" Companies' teams, each had two points, and it remained with the team commanders to decide. "A" being awarded the verdict and then beating "H" Company, who had drawn a bye.

Tilting the bucket, the mop fight, and especially the obstacle race caused the usual amount of amusement to the on-lookers. Those entering for the latter, had, before reaching the winning post, some rather unpleasant experiences, as after falling through barrels into a muddy water ditch, sacks filled with coloured powder had to be scrambled through. The Kubul river was near, however, and received numerous visits after the race.

All the distinctively Highland events, pipe playing, fling, sword, and reel dancing took place towards the close of the second day After our

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own dancers had performed, the ten-year old son of Major Campbell of the Guides danced a fling, and was loudly applauded for his clever performance. The little fellow wore his clan tartan, but had honoured the Ninety-Third by appearing in our own red and white checked hose. A piper of his father's regiment was the musician.

It was quite dark on the second day before the prizes were presented, Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh most kindly consenting to do this, and receiving three hearty cheers after the distribution. Cheers were also given for Colonel Fetherstonhaugh and for the little dancer. The Band of the 38th Dogras, who had performed at intervals during the afternoon, then played "The Queen," and a thousand or so of Her Majesty's loyal subjects wended their way homeward, to barrack or bungalow, to mess or bunk, to A. T. A. or canteen, where the competitions were again decided, and doubtlessly large proportions of the spoils of the day again found their way to the source from whence they came--the coffers of the Regimental Institutes.

The following are the events with the results :—

FIRST DAY—MORNING.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL (THREE THROWS).

Private McAllister,	"A" Company	... ...	1
,, Amos,	"F" ,,	... ...	2
Corporal Beavis,	"G" ,,	... ...	3

TUG-OF-WAR (FIRST HEATS).

"B" Company beat "A" Company.
"F" ,, scrached to "C" Company.
"H" ,, beat "E" Company.
"D" ,, teat "G" ,,

BICYCLE RACE (FOUR MILES).

Lance-Sergeant J. Ewan,	"F" Company	... ...	1
Corporal Johnstone,	"B" ,,	... ...	2

SACK RACE.

Private Payne,	"F" Company	... ...	1
,, Elliott,	"F" ,,	... ...	2
,, McNair,	"H" ,,	... ...	3

AFTERNOON (2 P.M.)

BOXING COMPETITION 10st 4 AND UNDER (THREE ROUNDS), FIRST AND SECOND HEATS.

1st Heats.—Private Stadams, "B" Company, beat Private Sullivan, "A" Company.
,, Private Griffiths, "H" Company, beat Private Newland, "H" Company.
,, Private Emmett, "G" Company, beat Private Royffe, "A" Company.
2nd Heats.—Private Stadams, a bye with Private Devereux.
,, ,, Griffiths beat Private Emmett.

AFTERNOON (4-15 P.M.).

HALF-MILE RACE (HANDICAP).

Private Denholm,	"B" Company	... ...	1
,, Mossman,	"B" ,,	... ...	2
,, Singleton,	"B" ,,	... ...	3

PUTTING HEAVY SHOT (7 FT. RUN, NO FOLLOW.)

Private Brydone,	"D" Company	... ...	1
,, McInnes	"B" ,,	... ...	2
,, Fraser	"F" ,,	... ...	3

LONG JUMP.

Private Kerr,	"B" Company,	17½ ft.	 1
Lance-Corporal Lillywhite,	"B" ,,	16 ft. 8 in.	 2
Private Horan,	"B" ,,	15 ft. 9½ in.	 3

ONE HUNDRED YARDS RACE (HANDICAP).

Private Adcock,	"B" Company...	... ...	1
Lance-Corporal Lillywhite,	"B" ,,	... ...	2
Private Auld,	"A" ,,	... ...	3

THROWING THE LIGHT-HAMMER (WITHOUT TURN).

Private Brydone,	"D" Company	... ...	1
,, McInnes,	"B" ,,	... ...	2
,, Leighton,	"H" ,,	... ...	3

BAYONET FIGHTING (TEAMS OF FOUR MEN AND N. C. O.).

First Round—"H" Company beat "F" Company.
"B" ,, ,, "D" ,,
"A" ,, ,, "G" ,,
Semi-final—"A" ,, ,, "B" ,,
"H" ,, ,, a bye. ,,
Final—"A" ,, beat "H" Company.

TILTING AT THE BUCKET.

Privates Findlay and Mitchell,	"A" Company	...	... 1
,, McTaggart and McDonald,	"H" ,,	...	... 2

SINGLE STICKS.

First Round—Corporal Johnstone, "B" Company, beat Private Bull "D" Company.
Private Bailey, "F" Company, beat Private Mitchell, "F" Company.
Final—Corporal Johnstone 1
Private Bailey 2

HURDLE RACE.

Lance-Corporal Lillywhite,	"B" Company	... ...	1
Private Kerr,	"B" ,,	... ...	2
,, Johnson,	"C" ,,	... ...	3

CHILDREN'S RACE (BOYS).

John Jackson ...	... ...		1
Frank Campbell	... ...		2
Sandy Mitchell	... ...		3

CHILDREN'S RACE (GIRLS).

Maud Mitchell...	... ...		1
Gladys Reynolds	... ...		2
Hilda Jackson...	... ...		3

LIGHT WEIGHT BOXING (FINAL ROUND).

Private Griffiths beat Private Stadams.

SECOND DAY—MORNING.

TUG-OF-WAR (SEMI-FINALS).

"D" Company beat "C" Company.
"H" ,, ,, "B" ,,

HIGH JUMP.

Private Auld,	"A" Company	5-1½	 1
,, D. C. Macgregor,	"B" ,,	5-0½	 2
,, McDonald,	"G" ,,		

BOXING COMPETITION (CATCH WEIGHTS).

First Round—Private Auld, "A" Company, beat Private Bull, "D" Company.
,, Private Devereux, "H" Company, a bye.
Final—Private Auld scratched to Devereux.

AFTERNOON (4-15 P.M.)

MILE RACE (HANDICAP).

Private Denholm,	"B" Company	... ...	1
,, Mossman,	"B" ,,	... ...	2
,, Payne,	"F" ,,	... ...	3

THROWING HEAVY HAMMER. (9 FT. CIRCLE).

Private Brydone,	"D" Company	93 ft. 7 in.	 1
,, McDonald,	"G" ,,	90 ft. 4 in.	 2
,, Leighton,	"H" ,,	72 ft. 7 in.	 3

GYMNASTIC COMPETITION (Instructors barred).

Private Griffiths,	"H" Company	... ...	1
,, Milne,	"A" ,,	... ...	2
,, Mitchell,	"F" ,,	... ...	3

OLD SOLDIERS' RACE.

Sergeant Symcox,	"A" Company	... ...	1
Private Wilcox,	"B" ,,	... ...	2
Lance-Corporal Mitchell,	"C" ,,	... ...	3

MOP COMPETITION.

Private Burns,	"G" Company	... ...	1
Lance-Corporal Brodie,	"F" ,,	... ...	2
Private McMillan,	"H" ,,	... ...	3

TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY YARDS RACE (Open).

Lance-Corporal Cooper,	"The Buffs" ...	... ...	1
Private Adcock,	"B" Company	... ...	2
,, Mossman,	"B" ,,	... ...	3

TOSSING THE CABER.

Private Brydone,	"D" Company	... ...	1
,, Auld,	"A" ,,	... ...	2
,, Emmerson,	"A" ,,	... ...	3

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OBSTACLE RACE.

Lance-Corporal Lillywhite, "B" Company 1
Private Payne, "F" " 2
" Lavan, "A" " 3

PHYSICAL DRILL COMPETITION.

"H" Company's Team 1

PUTTING THE LIGHT SHOT.

Private Brydone, "D" Company 1
McInnes, "B" " 2
Corporal Stobbie, "G" " 3

PIPE PLAYING (Marches, Strathspeys and Reels).

Piper Ferguson, "B" Company 1
" McLean, "B" " 2
" Finlayson, "D" " 3

HIGHLAND FLING.

Piper McLean, "B" Company 1
Pipe-Major Ferguson, "G" " 2

GHILLIE CALLUM.

Piper McLean, "B" Company 1
" Lynch, "D" " 2

REEL DANCING.

Best Set.—Pipers McLean and Finlayson, and Privates A. McLean and Collins, "E" Company 1
Individual Dancing.—Piper McLean 1
Private McLean, "E" Company 2

PIOBAIREACHD PLAYING.

Lance-Corporal Robb, "G" Company 1
Piper McLean, "B" " 2

CONSOLATION RACE.

Private Clements, "C" Company 1
" Elliott, "F" " 2
" Bailey, "F" " 3

NATIVE BAND RACE.

Sepoy Sewan, 38th Dogras 1
" Pedro, 38th " 2
" Ahmed Khan, 38th " 3
" Abdul Zeber Khan, 38th " 4

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' RACE.

Band Sergeant Peggie, "E" Company 1
Lance-Sergeant Arnott, "A" " 2
" Corporal Watson, "F" " 3

TUG-OF-WAR (Final).

"D" Company, beat "H" Company.

"D" COMPANY'S TUG-OF-WAR TEAM.

Lance-Sergeant Hanson, Lance-Corporals Potter and Gordon, Privates Brydone, McFarlane, Allen (5193), Seffen, Munro and Cross.

Trainer and Coach—Lance-Sergeant Durnan.

"A" COMPANY'S BAYONET FIGHTING TEAM.

Lance-Corporal Munn and Privates Milne, Findlay, Skinner and Royffe.

"H" COMPANY'S PHYSICAL DRILL TEAM.

Lance-Corporals Hunter, Keeble, Privates McGowan, Martin, Meehan, C. Sutton, McNair, Pearson, McTaggart, Newland, Atkins, Kelley, Notman, Slatter, Devereux, Wraite, Carr, Young, Glossop, Hawthorne, Sinclair, Thompson (5290) Golding and Develin.

Team Commander—Lance-Corporal F. J. Robinson.

—o—

Successful Teams at the Peshawar District Assault at Arms.

—o—

Owing to the amount of copy last month we were unable to give the names of our team representatives successful at the Assault at Arms at Peshawar. For only three events were teams entered and these secured firsts. The following were the teams:—

TUG-OF-WAR.—Lieutenant A. H. Maclean, Sergeant J. Middleby, Lance-Corporal J. Reid, Privates Brown, J. Auld, A. Ferguson, A. Brydone, Kennerson Anderson and D. McFarlane.

SIGNALLING.—Sergeant W. Smith and Privates J Brooks, J Amos, A. Hamilton and W. Johnson.

ALARM COMPETITION "D" COMPANY).—Lance-Corporal Rankin and Privates Milne, Patterson, Short, Burke, Rennie, White and Henderson.

Tae the Auld Wife.

—o—

MA DEAR MITHER,

IT'S a gey lang while since I wrote ye last, an deed for a time it was vera dootfu if I wad write ye again thro thae pages, for the future of the "Thin Yin" has been gey uncertain for some time past, but noo I hear it's placed on what the Latins ca "Terrible Forma"; and anither thing mither, ye ken fine that stamps, and paper, and covers are no tae be had for naethin, and wi the rupee risin ae farthin I'm fearin I'll no be able tae write ye every month reg'lar, hoosomeever I'll dae what I can.

We hae shifted frae Mian Mir and Dalhousie, and are noo settled at a station ca'ed Nowshera, tho' I'm "no—shair—a," the richt wey of spellin it; dae ye see the joke, mither? "Eh," ye'll be sayin "but the airmy 's making a man o' ma laddie."

This is what's ca'ed a frontier station an gin the natives up by Chitral way gie us ony mair trouble, I'm thinking we'll maybe gang tae the front, hooever that's no sae likely, for the powers that be seem tae look efter us wi mair than mitherly care, and gin there was a row on nae doot they wad pit us in some depôt tae mind the wimenfolk and bairns.

We were a' invited on Ne'Ear's Day, the richt hauf marchin in time for the feestivities.

We hae been strengthed wi' the addeetion o' twa drafts, and fine like sodjer-bodies they are, an for the maist part wad dae credit tae ony regiment.

There's a graun river no sax hunner yairds frae barracks whaur the troops fish and mony gae in for a dip, but I'm thinkin' afore lang, bathin' wull be dune awa wi', for there's an awfu' strong current, and it's said tae be a gey dangerous stream.

Oor annual games cam off this month, and were verra guid, yin man winnin' no less than five first prizes, but puir fella, the committee wad only lat him tak twa firsts and three seconds.

This is an awfu' station at nicht time wi' rifle thieves, or loosewallahs as they ca' them, and yin company lost an awfu' lot of shoes and claes o' a descreeptions, no tae mention a bayonet, tho' sae far there's been nae guns stolen.

We had a graun gaff here the ither nicht an oor Colonel's wife tuk the pairt o' a servant lass in graun style, whilst yin o' our officers as a milkman minded me, for a' the warld, o' auld Jock Tamson, ye ken Jock, that bides agin the smiddie.

Weel mither I'll jist conclude wi' best love tae Tibbie, Rab and the bairns, wee Dan wull be gettin' a big lad noo, and remain,

Your lovin' son,

JOCK.

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Things Theatrical.

—o—

DESPITE the fact that the so-called Regimental Theatre proved to be an empty part of half a bungalow with a drop curtain without ropes, a stage made of egg-box lids, and no scenery of any use, we have been able, chiefly through the energy of Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh and Lieutenant Newall, to put on a very successful "Gaff," which was crowded on the nights of Wednesday and Thursday, the 22nd and 23rd instant. Part I consisted of a variety entertainment and was responsible for introducing two welcome additions to the ranks of Gaffonians in the persons of Privates Cairns and Cunningham, the former being the happy possessor of a very pleasing tenor, whilst the latter is a very powerful reciter of some considerable dramatic ability.

Of the Horizontal Bar Act by Lance-Corporal Williams it is impossible to speak too highly, nothing could exceed the neatness and finish of the different exercises, though not being an instructor of gymnastics I am really unable to say what he did do, but when I mention that he twice obliged with "Palmer's Leap" I feel sure that those in the know you know will fully understand the excellence of his performance.

Needless to say Privates Benson and Lyons were great favourites, the latter fetching them every time with his song "The Doctor." (Do you think so? I think so, I do! I do indeed), whilst Private Elliott nearly succeeded in raising the roof off with the song "Glorious Beer."

Part II consisted of that original farce "The Area Belle." Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh as Penelope scored tremendously, and Miss Oakes as Mrs. Croaker was very good. Lieutenant Tomkins, 38th Dogras, was entrusted with the part of Pitcher and justified the selection, whilst Lieutenant Johnston-Stewart as Walker-Chalks, the *dudh-wallah*, was excellent; great praise is due to Sergeant Symcox for the manner in which he worked up Tosser's part at the eleventh hour, having to be called upon owing to the unfortunate illness of 2nd Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean.

Mention must be made of the excellent manner in which Bandmaster W. H. Davies has organised and trained the String Band, which was responsible for the accompaniments and incidental music throughout the evening.

The following is a detailed programme:—

PART I.

Overture. *Orchestra.*

1. Song Sentimental ... .. "Sunshine Above"
   Private Benson.
2. Song Comic .. .. "The Doctor"
   Private Lyons.
3. Recitation ... "The Charge of the Light Brigade"
   Private Cunningham.
4. Indian Clubs... ... ...Lance-Corporal Reid.
5. Song Comic ... ... "Glorious Beer"
   Private Elliott.
6. Song Sentimental ..."As the Church Bells Chime"
   Private Cairns.
7. Recitation ... ... "Ximalpoca"
   Private Cunningham.
8. Song Sentimental ... ... "Night Birds Cooing"
   Private Benson.
9. Song Comic ... ... "Where I'm lodging now"
   Private Lyons.
10. Song Sentimental ... ..."Sweet Marie"
    Private Cairns.
11. Banjo Duet ... ... "Selection"
    Privates Thompson & Evans.
12. Horizontal Bar ... Lance.-Corporal Williams and Private Cook.

10 MINUTES INTERVAL.

PART II.

Overture. *Orchestra.*

"THE AREA BELLE"

An Original Farce in one act

by

William Brough & Andrew Halilday.

CHARACTERS.

Pitcher ... ... (In the Police)
Lieutenant Tomkins, 38th Dogras.
Tosser ... ... (In the Guards)
Sergeant Symcox, Ninety-Third Highlanders.
Walker Chalks ... ... (Milkman)
Lieut. Johnston-Stewart, Ninety-Third Highlanders
Mrs. Croaker ... ... (The Missus)
Miss Oakes.
Penelope .. .. (The Area Belle)
Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh.

Scene.—A KITCHEN IN A TOWN HOUSE.

God save the Queen.

———:o:———

The Inter-Company Football League.

—o—

The Football League matches finished on the 18th April when "E" and "F" Companies, who had both, so far, the same number of wins, met to decide the possession of the "Clock." "F" were the favourites and should certainly have won, but were unsupported by three of their best players, and "E" Company managing to secure a goal in the first half held this advantage to the end. The matches this year did not seem to attract the usual interest, and several companies, notably "B," who lost their six best men during three matches, were crippled as the fixtures clashed with the Bengal—Punjab Army Cup Competition at Umballa. A number of matches were scratched through this cause, and altogether the season cannot be called a very promising one. Next season we hope the matches may start earlier, before any cup-tie competitions are commenced; this will be absolutely necessary as next trooping season will see half the present team to the Reserve and new players will have to be chosen. Match results:—

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"*A*" v. "*B*" *Company.*—Won by "B" Company (3—0).
"*E*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Won by "F" Company(2—1).
"*G*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—Won by "G" Company (1—0)
"*B*" v. "*C*" *Company.*—Won by "C" Company (1 - 0).
"*F*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Drawn (1—1).
"*H*" v. "*A*" *Company.*—Won by "H" Company (5—3)
"*C*" v. "*E*" *Company.*—Won by "E" Company (2—1).
"*D*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Won by "F" Company (3—1).
"*G*" v. "*A*" *Company.*—Drawn (1—1).
"*H*" v. "*B*" *Company.*—Won by "H" Company (2—1).
"*D*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Won by "G" Company (2—0).
"*C*" v. "*A*" *Company.*—Won by "A" Company (3—0).
"*H*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Won by "F" Company (4—2).
"*B*" v. "*E*" *Company.*—Drawn (0—0).
"*F*" v. "*A*" *Company.*—Won by "F" Company (2 -1).
"*C*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Won by "C" Company (4—1).
"*H*" v. "*E*" *Company.*—Won by "E" Company (5—1).
"*C*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Won by "C" Company (2—1).
"*H*" v. "*C*" *Company.*—Won by "C" Company (2—1).
"*F*" v. "*B*" *Company.*—Won by "F" Company (2—1).
"*A*" v. "*D*" *Company.*—Won by "A" Company (4- 3).
FINAL—"*E*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Won by "E" Coy. (1—0).

———: o :———

DEATH.

DUNKELD.—At Fort Attock, on the 19th ultimo, Robert John, the infant son of Sergeant R. Dunkeld.

———: o :———

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Quarter-master Sergeant.—No. 1280, Color-Sergeant R. Lundie.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5021, Pte. G. Duncan, "E" Company, and No. 4232, Pte. T. Doyle, "G" Company.

Assistant Regimental Signalling Instructor.—No. 3442, Corporal F. Rastall, "D" Company.

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

To be Paid Lance-Corporal.—No. 3346, Lance-Corporal J. Stewart, "C" Company.

EMPLOYMENT.

To be Garrison Librarian.—No. 3169, Lce.-Sergt. H.G. Hanson, "D" Company.

In Pioneer's Shop.—No. 2296, Pte. D. Baxter, "E" Company, as Carpenter.

In D. A. A. G.'s Office, Peshawar District.—No. 4116, Lance-Corporal W. Harris. "B" Company

In Orderly Room.—No. 5219, Pte. M. Sutherland, "F" Company.

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

Permitted to extend his service to serve twelve years with the Colours :—
No. 3006, Lance-Sergeant J. Ewan, "F" Company
Permitted to re-engage for twenty-one years with the Colours :—
No. 1407, Pte. J. Denholm, "B" Company.

TRANSFERS.

From Royal Scots Fusiliers.—Pte. R. Allison and posted to "C" Company.

From "E" to "C" Company.—No. 3595, Pte. J. Benson.

From "H" to "C" Company.—No. 4367, Pte. J. Dunlop,

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following have been granted 2*d.* per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*
No. 3509, Pte. R. Stewart.
"*B*" *Company.*
No. 3491, Lce-Corpl. H. Freeland. | No. 3528, Pte. F. Barnes.
"*C*" *Company.*
No. 3519, Pte. G. Artlett. | No. 3364, Pte. J. Conway.
No. 3536, Pte. F. Collins.
"*F*" *Company.*
No. 3490, Pte. R. Dyer. | No. 3521, Pte. F. Manley.
" 3497, " J. Robertson, | " 3507, " J. Robertson.
No. 3485 Pte. C. Burch.
"*H*" *Company.*
No. 3500, Pte. J. Robertson. | No. 3524, Pte. J. Hutchinson.
" 3506, " R. Duncan. | " 3142, " J. Hudson.
" 3530, " T. Hickman. | " 3188, " C. Devereux.
No. 3522, Pte. F. Huckle.

Restored 2*d.* per diem :—
"*C*" *Company.*
No. 1846, Pte. G. Evans.

Granted 1*d.* per diem :—
"*A*" *Company.*
No. 5060, Pte. J. Kelley.
"*B*" *Company.*
No. 5041, Pte. D. Gibbons.
"*C*" *Company.*
No. 3682, Pte. D. McCall. | No. 4072, Pte. C. Stewart.
No. 5062, Pte. J. Soutar.
"*E*" *Company.*
No. 4638, Pte. A. Bowie.
"*F*" *Company.*
No. 5032, Pte. J. Kelley. | No. 5053, Pte. J. Martin.
"*G*" *Company.*
No. 4753, Pte. E. McAulay. | No. 4596, Pte C. Ryans.

Restored 1*d.* per diem :—
"*C*" *Company.*
No. 3952, Pte. W. Maclean.
"*E*" *Company.*
No. 4048, Pte. J. Diplock.
"*F*" *Company.*
No. 3502, Pte. J. Dundas. | No. 3774, Pte. P. London.
No. 3470, Pte. T. Brown.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted Second Class Certificates of Education :—

No. 3220,	Corporal	T. Peters,	"E"	Company.
" 5225,	Private	W. Hastie,	"A"	"
" 5164,	"	C. Lewington,	"B"	"
" 3765,	"	J. Adcock,	"B"	"
" 2534,	"	J. Archer,	"B"	"
" 3536,	"	F. Collins,	"C"	"
" 4417,	"	J. Brown,	"C"	"
" 3563,	"	J. Allinson,	"C"	"
" 5016,	"	W. Warnock,	"F"	"
" 3557.	"	T. Hiscock,	"F"	"
" 3220,	"	W. Saunders,	"F"	"
" 3432,	"	A. Gilfin,	"H"	"

Granted Third Class Certificates of Education :—

No. 4500,	Lance-Corporal	J. Watson,	"F"	Company.
" 3861,	Private	J. Gilfether,	"A"	"
" 4780,	"	J. Hope,	"B"	"
" 4025,	"	J. McNeill,	"G"	"
" 4153,	"	T. Sutton,	"C"	
" 3800,	"	T. Granger,	"C"	
" 4848,	"	J. McEwan,	"D"	"
" 3988,	"	H. Brown,	"F"	"
" 5134,	"	R. Lightbody,	"F"	"
" 4617,	"	J. McWilliams,	"F"	"
" 4094,	"	E. Mitchell,	"F"	"
" 4164,	"	C. Jenkins,	"G"	"

TRANSPORT CERTIFICATES.

The following have been granted Certificates as Transport Sergeants on Field Service :—

No. 3151,	Sergeant	C. Stubbs,	"H" Company.
" 3551,	Corporal	H. Kerr,	"F" "
" 4397,	Lance-Corpl.	E. Cody,	"C" "
" 4885,	Private	J. Develin	"H" "

TELEGRAPHY CERTIFICATES.

The following have been granted Telegraphy Certificates :—

No. 4293,	Private	J. Newel,	"B" Company.
" 3948,	"	P. Kay,	"D" "
" 4195,	"	W. Barnard,	"G" "

PIONEER SERGEANT'S CERTIFICATE.

Passed Course of Instruction qualifying for Pioneer Sergeant :—
No. 3648, Private J. Latchford, "G" Company.

GYMNASIUM CERTIFICATES.

Granted First Class Certificates as Instructors in Fencing and Gymnastics :—

No. 3293,	Lance-Corporal	H. Williams,	"B"	Company.
" 4602,	"	T. Currie,	"G"	"
" 3712,	"	D. Davidson;	"G"	"

THE DRAFT.

The following draft from the Home Battalion has been posted as under :—

No. 2808,	Sergeant	J. Soutar,	"F" Company.
" 3681,	Lance-Sergeant	E. Vicars,	"A" "
" 4484,	Corporal	T. S. Matthews,	"E" "

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"A" Company.

No. 4531,	Pte. J. Armour.	No. 3734,	Pte. A. Cameron.
,, 5287,	,, C. Munro.	,, 5299,	,, W. Allan.
,, 5353,	,, F. Crawford.	,, 5397,	,, W. Russell.
,, 5139,	,, J. Hendry.	,, 5333,	,, R. Hay.

"B" Company.

No. 4991,	Pte. J. Anderson.	No. 5284,	Pte. A.C. McIntyre.
,, 5105,	,, N. Edgar.	,, 5041,	,, J. Gibbons.
,, 5238,	,, T. Rowe.	,, 3747,	,, T. Trainer.

No. 5253, Private R. McGibbon.

"C" Company.

No. 4679,	Pte. R. Leitch.	No. 5402,	Pte. J. Watson.
,, 5215,	,, M. Cairns.	,, 5062,	,, J. Soutar.

No. 5303, Private A. Hoy.

"D" Company.

No. 4418,	Pte. J. Lapsley.	No. 5271,	Pte. J. Toye.
,, 5127,	,, J. Johnstone.	,, 5043,	,, J. Burns.
,, 5248,	,, J. Orr,	,, 3000,	,, G. Gardner.
,, 5279,	,, T. Pollock,	,, 5257,	,, R. Archibald.

No. 5291, Pte. R. Tawse.

"E" Company.

No. 5003,	Pte. W. Hall.	No. 5110,	Pte. J. Greig.
,, 5292,	,, J. Hughes.	,, 5256,	,, J. Atkinson.
,, 5286,	,, W. Stewart.	,, 5320,	,, J. Davis.
,, 5364,	,, T. Higgins.	,, 5420,	,, T. Thacker.

"F" Company.

No. 5017,	Pte. J. Scott.	No. 5074,	Pte. J. Babbington.
,, 5032,	,, J. Kelley.	,, 5234,	,, A. W. Gray,
,, 5275,	,, H. Brown.	,, 5335,	,, G. Downs.

"G" Company.

No. 5115,	Pte. R. Jamieson.	No. 5233,	Pte. J. Taylor.
,, 5274,	,, J. Mackie.	,, 5297,	,, W. Andrews.
,, 5301,	,, W. Tedford.	,, 5327,	,, R. West.
,, 5404,	,, J. Cook.	,, 5413,	,, R. Dowther.
,, 5269,	,, J. Skene.	,, 5273,	,, J. Campbell.

"H" Company.

No. 5159,	Pte. T. Laird.	No. 5251,	Pte. W. Carruthers.
,, 5349,	,, J. Clarkson.	,, 5401,	,, J. McGuire.

—:o:—

Annual Musketry Return for 1895-96.

—o—

	Figure of Merit.
"A" Company	134·18.
	63·11
	104·52
"B" ,, ...	47·01
	118·94
"C" ,, ...	46·89
	122·24
"D" ,, ...	50·41
	132·80
"E" ,, ...	58·57
	97·97
"F" ,, ...	42·77
	121·41
"G" ,, ...	62·95
	116·66
"H" ,, ...	47·78

Total Marksmen	83
First Class Shots	285
Second ,, ,, ...	463
Third ,, ,, ...	106
	937

Battalion Figure of Merit—
Individual, 118·15; Field Practices, 52·31.

—:o:—

Musketry Prize Statement.

—o—

	£	s.	d.
Best Shot in Battalion—			
No. 3042, Private J. Mitchell, "A" Company... ...	1	5	0
Second Best Shot—			
No. 3077, Corporal C. Johnstone, "B" ,, ...	0	15	6
Third Best Shot—			
No. 3236, Corporal R. Miller, "B" ,, ...	0	10	5½

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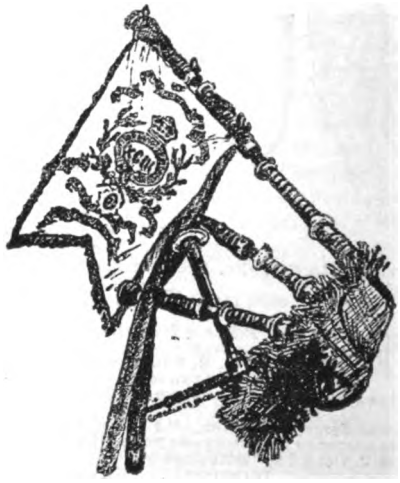
"A" Company	...Lance-Corporal Allison.
"C" ,,	...Private Ritchie.
"D" ,,	...Lance-Corporal Rankin.
"E" ,,	... ,, Ballantyne
"F" ,,	... ,, Brodie.
"G" ,,	...Private Nixon.
"H" ,,	...Lance-Corporal Haskell.
Band	... ,, McRae.
Dalhousie Depôt	... ,, G. Watson.
Chirat	...Corporal Lockie.



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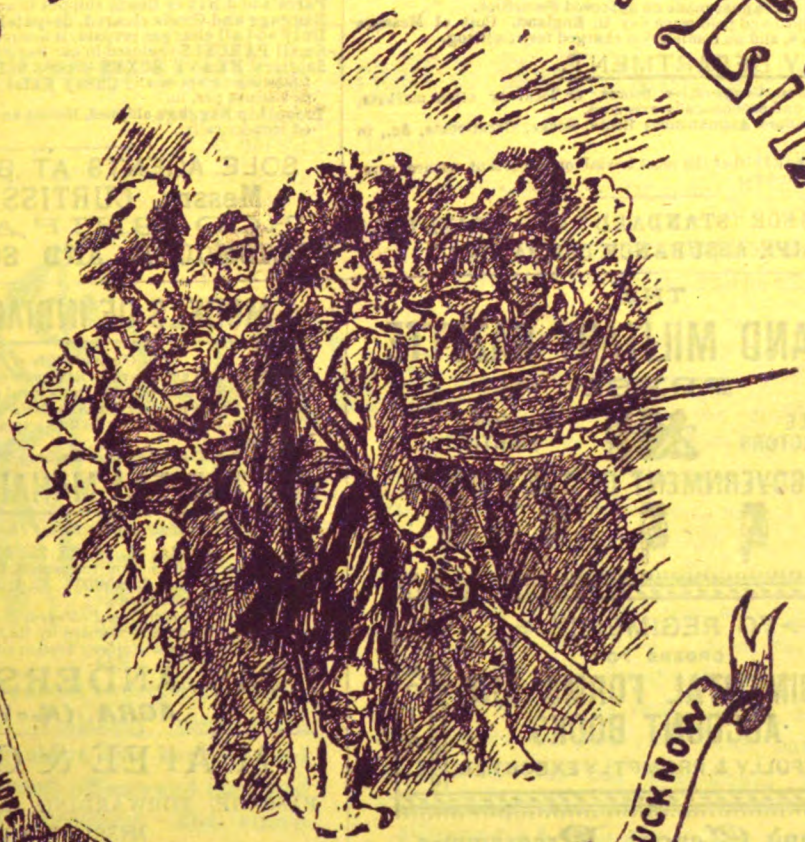

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 3—Vol. III. NOWSHERA,—JUNE 1896. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE two last drafts, together with invalids, left for Pabbi by the twenty-three o'clock train on the 7th May, from thence by route march, about twenty-three miles, to Chirat. Captain Vallancey commanded the party, numbering about two hundred and twenty non-commissioned officers and men, 2nd Lieutenant Cox also proceeding. The march uphill (Chirat is about 4,500 feet above the sea level) appears to have been a pretty stiff one, and not a few of the party needed the assistance of dhoolis to complete their journey.

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The married families also proceeded to the same station on the 19th May, travelling by night in tongas from Pabbi. Another small party of invalids left on the 23rd.

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A sad bathing fatality occurred on Sunday, 10th May: Private W. McGregor, "B" Company, losing his life in the Kabul river from drowning. It appears that after Church parade the deceased, together with another man, walked over towards the river, and after talking with some other men of his company, who were fishing, left his companion and went about one hundred and fifty yards down the bank. Soon those fishing noticed what they imagined to be a native in the water, apparently in difficulties, and immediately ran down the river bank, but the man whoever he was had disappeared below the surface before their arrival.

Discovering helmet and clothes on the bank, it was at once known that the man seen struggling in the water was Private McGregor, and his comrades immediately returned to barracks and reported the occurrence.

It is not known how, or why, the deceased got into the water, as he could not swim, and the river at the time was very rapid and dangerous,

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being swollen by the melting snows from the hills.

Soon after the sad occurrence four men of deceased's company, Privates Patterson, Bracey, D. C. Macgregor and Kerr, went down the river, in one of the Government boats kept here, in the hope of discovering signs of the body, but after an exciting and adventurous journey, lasting about four hours, they arrived at Fort Attock with the news only. Next morning the body was recovered floating down the river opposite the Fort, badly mutilated owing to the rough nature of the river channel, dangerous and shallow rapids being numerous between Nowshera and the confluence of the Kabul river with the Indus at Attock.

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Punkahs started swinging in most of the barracks on the 16th May, not before they were required either, as since the commencement of the month the weather, to say the least, has been a trifle close during midday and at night. The system of pulling punkahs here is certainly an improvement upon Mian Mir, but not so economical, about six coolies being required for a bungalow, where one would have been sufficient at Mian Mir.

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Owing to the retirement of Major Tottenham, Major W. H. Dick-Cunyngham, V.C., has been gazetted as second-in-command of our 1st Battalion. This has given Captain Urmston his majority, and he will probably rejoin this battalion.

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Reveillé now sounds at half past five and Retreat at half past seven. The pipes and drums still play at Reveillé and Tattoo on Tuesdays and Fridays, but no longer at Retreat.

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Again with the advent of the punkahs the opening of the canteen during midday has been discontinued, and the dinner beer is now drawn in cans and taken to the barrack-rooms for consumption, and it is not necessary for the men to expose themselves to the sun to procure their midday allowance; a most necessary precaution during the hot weather for the prevention of heat apoplexy and kindred attacks.

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"C" and "B" Companies have finished the individual part of their annual course of musketry for 1896-97, the latter company showing an improvement upon last year's average.

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Corporal R. Miller is "company shot" of "B," whilst Private E. Gray holds the same enviable position in "C" Company.

The two last drafts have also been exercised.

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From the *Stirling Observer* the following is taken:—

Master-Tailor Ross, late of Stirling Castle, died on Friday morning. Deceased belonged to the north of Scotland and joined the 92nd Gordon Highlanders. He served for a long period in various parts of the country, and latterly in Stirling Castle, retiring some years ago on a pension. He was well known in the town in connection with his histrionic proclivities. On several occasions he promoted dramatic performances, which took place in halls in the town, and, being an actor of considerable ability, he was always entrusted with the leading part. Deceased, who was over sixty years of age, is survived by a grown-up family.

Mr. Ross was for several years Master-Tailor at our depôt, and a large proportion of the present regiment, who must have fitted their first clothing at his hands, will read the above with much regret.

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Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh left here on the 2nd May for Japan on ninety days' accumulated privilege leave. He reports having had a very hot journey to Calcutta. Major J. S. Napier has assumed command of the battalion during Colonel Fetherstonhaugh's absence.

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The Queen's Birthday parade was celebrated on Wednesday, 20th May, the 24th falling on a Sunday. The battalion paraded just before six o'clock and formed six companies, the largest turn-out for three years, as in the two previous years the regiment was divided between Dalhousie and Mian Mir.

The Brigade parade ground was as usual very dusty and no march past was attempted; the

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battalion, together with the 11th Bengal Lancers, and the 38th Dogras formed one line.

The previous night was the worst we have had this summer, and it was very stuffy on parade. Luckily the ceremony is not very long and we were back in quarters by seven o'clock.

Colonel Lorne Campbell, 38th Dogras, commanded the parade.

* * * * * *

The energy of the regimental police probably saved "H" Company from another *lootwallah* raid about the middle of last month. Whilst Privates Kenny and Adams were patrolling round barracks about three o'clock in the morning of the 13th, they came suddenly across five natives, one of them stripped for action, peering into an open door of No. 20 bungalow. One of the police unfortunately challenged which caused the thieves to immediately make off in the direction of the railway, Private Adams's rifle being loaded he fired at the men, but apparently did not hit them and they then for safety separated, three going in one direction and two in another. Private Kenny followed the latter for about two hundred yards when he also fired at about fifty yards range; it was however too dark to take anything but a hurried sight, and the natives although probably wounded by the buckshot, as they shouted as though hit, got clear away. The men in the bungalow, aroused by the first shot fired, naturally turned out in an excited manner, and a couple of files of the guard were also soon on the spot, but any attempt to follow the thieves was out of the question, as they were probably well acquainted with their ground and the night was very dark.

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"E" Company have finished their annual musketry course, the individual attack practice being omitted. Sergeant W. Scott has the highest score (174), but, not being eligible as a Staff Sergeant, the "Gold guns" go to Color-Sergeant L. Robertson who comes next with a score of 169. In all there are nine marksmen and the company averages 122, very fair for only sixty-three rounds.

The Football Tournament for the Durand Trophy commences at Simla on the 16th September. A new Cup is to be competed for this year, as the Highland Light Infantry won the old Cup outright last Tournament.

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It is to be hoped that, if the Regimental team is to be sent this year, they may be given a chance of training properly in the hills, and not as last year when the majority were kept on the plains for the summer and were consequently far from fit in the cold weather when required for matches.

Even accepting the fact that Nowshera is less unhealthy than Mian Mir, it is hardly an ideal place to train a Football team in for a tournament on the hills. The change from over 100° in the shade to an ordinary summer temperature would be quite sufficient to put some of the players *hors de combat*, not counting the rarefied atmosphere of Simla's 6,000 odd feet, which would take at least a week to get accustomed to before hard work could be attempted. If the team is to be sent at all it should surely be given a fair chance, for it can certainly be bracketed with about half-a-dozen others as one of the best teams in India, and with a small amount of luck, which has certainly been conspicuous by its absence during the last few years, there is no reason why the new Durand Cup should not bear the name of the Ninety-Third upon it as winners for the inaugural year.

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The rifles being too carefully guarded, *lootwallahs* have transferred their attentions to the bayonet, several having been stolen from Peshawar in addition to the one lost in "H" Company. Bayonets have now to be locked in the kit boxes for security, and conjecture is busy as to what part of equipment will next attract the *lootwallah's* cupidity.

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Lieutenant Tweedie returned from the Garrison Class at Dalhousie on the 21st May.

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The Officer Commanding bagged a couple of snakes in the regimental garden on the 24th May. They were both coiled up on a small tree where the gardener discovered them. One was quite

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six feet in length and the other not much short of it; they turned out to be of a harmless variety.

* * * * * *

Two officers of the battalion have been seriously ill with enteric fever lately, but both have now passed the critical stage and are doing well. Lieutenant Marshall was taken ill in the middle of his Garrison Class at Dalhousie and was of course unable to go up for the examination.

2nd Lieutenant Maclean was most unfortunate in getting sick within three weeks of his joining the battalion, and particularly in being laid up in the plains, in which respect he is at a great disadvantage compared with Lieutenant Marshall.

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Captain Robinson writes that he has had a very pleasant time in Burmah, but not very much sport. He has now gone to Ceylon for a month on his way back.

* * * * * *

The gymnastic inspection of India is now all in the regiment: Captain McKerrell having received the appointment of Inspector of Gymnasia for Bengal and the Punjab, while Captain Davidson is already Inspector for Bombay and Madras.

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Sergeants T. McKenzie and C. Duncan have both passed out well at the second annual examination of the students in the Upper Subordinate Class at the Thomason Engineering College, Rurki. Sergeant McKenzie passed second and Sergeant Duncan seventh on the list, both getting higher certificates as Sub-Engineers.

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2nd Lieutenant Elphinston is the best shot in the battalion with a revolver. He made 86 out of a possible 96 in his annual revolver course.

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The tunic is no longer to be worn in India. In Review Order Highland Regiments will wear the plaid with the serge frock, the new pattern of which has white braided shoulder straps for the rank and file; the sergeants' serge has in addition white piping round the edges, giving it a distinct and neat appearance.

In addition to this slight change in the clothing, khaki gaiters are now issued annually to be worn on field service and for field days. As these will only need brushing, a considerably amount of trouble will thereby be saved, but otherwise there is no improvement and khaki "spats" will certainly not look well with our red and white hose.

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What might have been a very serious accident occurred at the rifle range on the first day of "H" Company's annual course of musketry. Soon after firing had commenced the danger flag was shown from the marker's butts, and it then appeared that Corporal Gillespie and Private D. Stewart who were marking had both been struck almost simultaneously by fragments of bullets. Private Stewart was hit on the arm only, but Corporal Gillespie's wound on the temple might have been more serious had it been a little lower. Both had their wounds dressed in hospital, and fortunately will soon be fit for duty again.

The stalwart drafts so tried and true
Have proved themselves a trifle flat,
They boasted of their marching too,
Yet only thirty reached Chirat.

P.S.—Found in the Inspired Idiot's kit box when he went sick, and handed to us by the Orderly Corporal. We hear the I. I. has brain fever.—Ed.

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Selling the Kit.

—o—

IN the verandah of one of the long barrack bungalows in a station in the Indian plains, in the hot weather, after morning parade, a barrack-room table has been brought out and covered with a brown blanket, and on a well-scrubbed bench the Captain of the company sits, his sword on the table before him, for in the heat even the tight pressure of a sword-belt is a nuisance, and by him the Subaltern, all in white, like his Captain. The sun, a red ball, is just rising through a purple mist of dust haze; the grass of the broad maidan on which the bungalows stand in echelon is a rusty red, burnt up by the heat; the foliage of the great trees which are scattered over the wide spaces is so covered with dust that the green is almost brown. From the company cook-house, fifty yards away behind the bungalow, comes the clatter of pots and pans, and the voice of the company's cook-house Orderly adjuring the native cooks in a language half English, half Hindustani, and wholly abusive, to hurry up with the men's breakfasts. From inside the bungalow comes the clatter of rifles being put into the racks, and the hum of many voices. A half-dozen impertinent grey crows are hopping about on and near the verandah, knowing that it is near breakfast time, and that they will soon have crusts to fight over, a tame mongoose tied by a string to one of the pillars of the verandah has circled round and round, and having knotted itself up, is waiting with quick eyes for its master to come and undo it. Two squirrels—the little dark squirrels of India, with white stripes down their backs—are chasing each other up and down the trunk of the nearest tree. The men's dogs chained up in the line of miscellaneous kennels by the side of the bungalow are straining at their strings, and barking a welcome.

The Captain undoes the button at the throat of his white coat. "Lord, it *is* hot," he says.

"There were no more cases this morning?" queried the Subaltern in a whisper.

"No! Two more cases, and the doctors say we shall have to go out into Cholera Camp. My leave beings on the 12th, and the wife writes to me that everything is just getting into swing at Simla, and what a good time she is having. If only the rains would come and wash this beastly country clean! The monsoon ought to have broken at Bombay by now."

The Color-Sergeant, his belt off, the shine of soap on his face, and his hair brushed up, comes bustling out of the little room where the books and stores are kept. He is a married man and lives half-a-mile away in the married quarters, but has a *pied-à-terre* in what is known as the Color-Sergeant's bunk. He puts a large sheet of paper down before the officers, and the perspiring company's storeman, in trousers and a grey shirt, the sleeves of which are turned up, follows him and drops an armful of clothing by the side of the table; then going down on hands and knees, puts them into order—grey flannel shirts, puggaries, socks, jerseys, mitts, cholera belts, one or two hold-alls, towels, knives, forks, spoons, two or three sets of brushes, and a multitude of other things.

"He always had a good kit," says the Captain with a symptom of a sigh.

The men are pouring out of the bungalow now with white coats unbuttoned; some, who prefer ease and do not mind the risk of a reproof from the Color-Sergeant, in trousers and undershirt only. Some have got into comfortable foot wear shoes of white canvas or native leather, and there are some sola topees amongst the helmets.

The Color-Sergeant shakes his head in answer to the Captain's remark. "I don't know what the company will do without him. He was worth a dozen non-commissioned officers. He looked after the young soldiers in his squad, and none of them were ever checked on kit parade, and to think that he should have been the first taken."

"Are all the things there?" says the Captain, who wants to get to business, for the day grows hotter every minute and the East is ablaze with

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the newly-risen sun. The men, talking amongst themselves, have formed an irregular half circle before the table.

"Everything except the things he had with him in hospital, and those have been burnt by the doctor's orders," answers the storeman.

"Then get along with it."

"You come up here and do auctioneer, Cole," says the Color-Sergeant to a gipsy-looking man amongst the crowd, and a score of voices echo "Go on, Darkey."

But Cole is unwilling, and, in answer to a suggestion from the Captain that he should make haste, begs pardon, the usual commencement of a speech, and explains that he was the comrade of the dead man and wants to bid for some of his things.

"Then you come up here, Green," and "Go on, Ginger," "Put 'em up, old gaffer," and other words of encouragement come from the crowd.

"You've got the little girl's address? He spoke to me about her in hospital before he died, and I must write home to her by this mail."

"Yes, sir," answers the Color-Sergeant. "She's in service in Camberwell."

"Had he a daughter?" puts in the Subaltern.

"Yes. Married without leave when he first joined. His wife died. Managed to bring the girl up somehow, and now she's in service somewhere in England. Are we never going to begin?" This to Ginger, who is holding up a new flannel shirt for inspection. "Now which of you young dandies wants a shirt, that, when the General comes round at next inspection, will please him so that he'll promote yer to Sergeant at once?"

Ginger is the low comedian of the company and the champion comic singer, and is allowed in consequence to take liberties.

"One rupee." "Two." "Three, four, five."

The last bid comes from a man of another company who has strolled over, and his interference with what is a Company's matter is resented.

"Six," says Cole. "Seven," says the man of the other Company out of bravado. Darkey Cole looks as black as night, and says "Ten," and no one speaks a word further.

"Going, going, gone," comes from Ginger. "Private Cole ten rupees" from the Color-Sergeant, and the Captain, after noting it, looks at Cole, who is standing a little in advance of the other men. "You gave more than the original value for that, Cole."

"May be, sir; but he was my comrade, and the money's to go to his kid in England, is n't it, sir? And God knows which of us will go next."

The Captain nods.

"He was mighty fond of his girl, sir," the Color-Sergeant interjects.

"He talked of nothing but her to me in the hospital before the end began," the Captain assents.

"Now here's a knife, fork, and spoon so bright and shiny that eating with 'em will make you think your rooty's plum cake, turn the muttonee ghost into venison, and the suet duff into Christmas pudding. Now then bid up, boys!"

The bidding runs up by annas till it reaches a rupee. Then there is a pause in the bidding.

"'Ere one rat and a 'alf, for the sake of poor old Joe's kid," comes from a Cockney in the background.

The Captain raises his eyebrows and looks at the Color-Sergeant, who replies, "They were very fond of him, all the company, sir, and besides he's the first to go."

The heat is becoming overpowering, the dogs are lying each with its head ouside its hutch panting, a string of little black boys, with nothing on except a rag round their foreheads and another round their loins, are bringing over meat and eggs and curry on open iron trays balanced on their heads, waving each an iron spoon over the food all the while to keep off the kites, which, circling always over head, are ready to dash down and seize the meat. The men who do not intend to buy anything go off into the bungalow to eat, but a little gathering still remains.

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The voice of Ginger selling the towels, socks, shirts, with a sameness of jokes, keeps on, and steadily the men of his old squad buy up the dead man's property at prices which mean a big outlay from the pockets of private soldiers.

The last scrap of property has been sold, and the Captain adds up the total.

"That will make a very nice little sum to send home to the child," he says to Cole, who has bought a large share, and is waiting to hear what the total is.

"Thank you, sir. That's what we of the squad and company wanted, and, perhaps, if we get up a little subscription as well, you'd forward it. The sooner the better, sir, with this cholera hanging over us."

The Captain nods, and tells the Color-Sergeant and Cole that his name may head the list with five rupees.

As he and the Subaltern buckle on their swords again, the Captain says a few quiet words to the Color-Sergeant as to the men's amusements. There is to be a singsong to-night, and something must be arranged for every evening with cholera threatening barracks.

The Adjutant comes cantering past, and, seeing the Captain coming out of the balcony, reins up and beckons to him.

"Two more cases in "G" Co. after parade, and one in "D". The regiment ordered out into camp at once. All officers recalled. We march to-morrow at four."

The Captain says nothing. The dream of the hills with their pine scents and cooling breeze from the snows has gone. He sets his teeth, and trudges back to his bungalow through the furnace heat of the day. N. N.-D. *in*

'*The Man of the World.*'

Tae the Auld Wife.

—o—

MA DEAR MITHER,

YE'LL mebbe blamin' me for ma extraivagence in writin' agen this month, but as I hed a bit paper by me, an a freen gied me a stamp I thocht I micht dae waur than drap ye a line.

Ye min' what I tell't ye in ma last aboot the river that's here, weel yin o oor puir chaps got drouned the ither day, an bathin is pit a stap tae, hooever the authorities that be hae opened the soomin baths sae I get ma dook a the same.

I was yin of the pairty that went doon the river in a boat aboot twa hours efter it happened tae see gin we cud find the body, an though we went as far as Fort Attock we cud see nae traces o' him, hoosomdever his body was found the next day an' buried at Attock. Dae ye ken, Mither, it wis an awfu voyage, as the river wis a' wharlpools, rapids an sunken rocks; I dinna think Niagara cud be muckle waur.

The weather's gettin' fearfu' het, an the punkahs hae startit. I'm thinkin ye'll no ken what punkahs are, sae I'll explain: they're jist bits of boards hung frae the roofs wi a wheen clouts tackit ontill them, an' a' jined yin wi' the ither wi' ropes, an a nigger pu's the hale jing bang, an the boards an clouts gae swing-swing whilk mak's an artifeecial waurr that's awfu tryin for the een and aye gies yin a bad hoast.

I think the niggers hae orders no tae pu' owre strang, gin they blaw a' the bed-claes aff the men.

Noo the heat's sae great, the yill at mid-day is drawn frae the canteen for ilka company an there's an awfu' rush tae cairry the buckets twa or three days efter pey-day. They say "ae volunteer is warth three pressed men," but ae volunteer on this job is warth three pots.

On the 20th May we a' paraded and fired the Queen's health, then gied three cheers and were dune for the day.

Did I tell ye that I hed a wee bitchock? Man! Mither, she's hed sum graun pups an I wis

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thinkin' o' sendin yin hame for the bairns tae play wi', but the expense wud be sumthin awfu'. Tell Tibbie I hae ca-ed it efter her.

I hae nae mair news the noo, but am keepin weel and hope you're a' the same.

With love tae Tibbie, Rab and the bairns.

I remain,
Your lovin son,
JOCK.

P.S.—Gin ye hae ony o' ma faither's auld semmits ye micht send some oot as mine are a' dune.

THE LATE LADY LOCKHART, OF LEE, had a great admiration for the men of the Highland Brigade. The following verses written by Lady Lockhart, show that the writer had not only some knowledge of what men in line should do when coming to the "ready," but that she had every confidence in the Highlanders who on Balaclava Day stood in the ranks of the Thin Red Line :—

Hurrah! the sturdy Highlanders, the gallant Ninety-Three.
At Balaclava firm they stand like rocks against the sea ;
There's Maxwell and Macdonald, and Ross, the noble chiels.
His Grenadiers beside him, bearing Scotland's honoured shields.
Then loudly blow the bagpipes, and firmly stand your ground.
For the gallant men Sir Colin leads invincible are found.

The Russians come both fast and strong, now face them Ninety-Three.
Steady, rear men, bayonets fix, down front rank on your knee.
Your Captain's claymore mocks the foe, M'Bain the colours wave.
The French are looking on to cheer, you cannot but be brave.
Then louder blow the bagpipes, unflinching stand your ground.
For the gallant men Sir Colin leads victorious shall be found.

I told you so—the Russians quake, the arrant cowards run ;
Sebastopol will yet be ours, we'll silence every gun.
Then welcome hame, wi' tattered kilts, ye gallant Ninety-Three.
'Mang wives and bairns and toonsfolk all, right welcome shall ye be.
Preserve those stirring old bagpipes, our sons shall ever play.
In memory of Sir Colin, upon Balaclava's day.

Glasgow Evening News.

The Latest Epidemic.

—o—

NO doubt on glancing back at our school days, all of us remember that at certain periods of the year certain games had to be played, games often-times that could hardly be said to be regulated by atmospheric influences.

Naturally football had to be played in winter, cricket in summer, and snow-balling of course depended on a fall of snow, but such games as "Police and Prisoners," "Smuggle the Gag," "Chevy Chase," or even the humble but all prevalent "Marbles" came in always about the same season each year with a regularity worthy of "Old Moore's Almanack."

In this station the latest outbreak is billiards, and there are at present three tables on which the budding Roberts's, Pealls, Mitchells, and pushing Young Diggles, can exercise their skill; the best table is undoubtedly in the League of the Cross Room, better known perhaps as the "Irish Canteen," (now then hospital birds what price the "Irish Mail!") the Library or rather Recreation Room boasts of one, and there is also another at the Church of England Institute.

Owing to the energy of Sergeant Hanson, the non-commissioned officer in charge of the Library, a billiard handicap came off there on the 25th and 26th May.

As a first attempt at handicapping it was fairly successful, the only two starts that could be cavilled at were Private Burns, too leniently treated with 20 of a start in 100, and Private Hamblion who was rather harshly put at scratch.

There were twelve entries, and some of the heats proved very exciting, especially that between Privates Doyle and Adams, where the score stood at 99 all, and between Privates Mansfield and Macgregor who tied at 93. Details as below.

HEAT I.

Private Goff, "F" Company (receives 25)
Versus
Private Smith, "D" Company (scratch).
Private Goff won ... ... Scores 100—82

Private Adams, "F" Company (receives 20)
Versus
Private Chidley, "B" Company (receives 25).
Private Chidley won ... ... Scores 100—72

Private Mansfield, "E" Company (receives 15)
Versus
Private Macgregor, "B" Company (scratch)
Private Macgregor won. ... ... Scores 100—93

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Private Hindmarsh, "G" Company (scratch)
Versus
Private Burns, "D" Company (receives 20).
Private Burns won ... ... Scores 100—63
Private Adams, "A" Company (receives 15).
Versus
Private Doyle, "G" Company (receives 15).
Private Adams won ... ... Scores 100—99
Private J. Donnelly, "B" Company (receives 15)
Versus
Private Hamblion, "F" Company (scratch).
Private Donnelly won ... ... Scores 100—68

HEAT II.

Private Goff, "F" Company (receives 25)
Versus
Private Adams, "A" Company (receives 15).
Private Goff won ... ... Scores 100—86
Private Donnelly, "B" Company (receives 15)
Versus
Private Macgregor, "B" Company (scratch).
Private Donnelly won ... ... Scores 100—88
Private Burns, "D" Company (receives 20).
Versus
Private Chidley, "B" Company (receives 20).
Private Burns won ... ... Scores 100—63

SEMI-FINAL.

Private Goff, "F" Company (receives 25), a bye.
Private Burns, "D" Company (receives 20)
Versus
Private J. Donnelly, "B" Company (receives 15).
Private Burns won ... ... Scores 100—63

FINAL.

Private Burns, "D" Company (receives 20
Versus
Private Goff, "F" Company (receives 25).
Private Goff won ... ... Scores 200—198

More power to you JOE.

MAC.

—:o:—

Dalhousie Depot Doings.

—o—

The "hill-wallahs" are located at Banikhet.

* * * * * *

Since their arrival, two football matches have been played on the Dhobies' Flat, No. 2 Section (composed of Seaforths, King's Royal Rifles, and Somerset Light Infantry) being their opponents on each occasion. In the first match victory rested with Banikhet by one goal to *nil*, while the second match, in which No. 2 Section had the assistance of four outsiders, two of whom are members of their respective regimental elevens, resulted in a win for No. 2 by two goals to one.

* * * * * *

Lance-Corporal Watson and Private Brown, "A" Company, Private Wallace, "B" Company, Private Blackwood, "C" Company, and Private McAulay, "G" Company, played for Banikhet in both matches.

* * * * * *

The following depôt appointments have been made: —

To be Sergeant.—Corporal E. Rose.		"H"	Company.
To be Corporals.—Lance-Corporal A. Kettles.		"C"	"
" "	J. Duncan.	"A"	"
" "	J. Dodds.	"C"	"
To be Lance-Corporals.—Private H. Beattie.		"A"	"
" "	E. A. Dowie.	"D"	"
" "	R. McGarvie.	"E"	"

The undermentioned non-commissioned officers and men have been employed as stated against their names :—

DEPÔT.

Hospital Orderlies.—Lance-Corporal Beattie, "A" Company; Privates Devlin and Allen, "D" Company; Privates Riddock and Frankum, "F" Company; and Private Ridgeway, "G" Company.
Hospital Writer.—Lance-Corporal R. McGarvie, "E" Company.
Postman.—Private J. McDonald, "E" Company.
Dairy.—Private J. McKinnon, "G" Company.

BANIKHET.

Coffee Shop.—Sergeant E. Rose, "H" Company, and Private J. Fraser, "E" Company.
Polo Ground.—Private J. Blackwood, "C" Company,

* * * * * *

At a gymkhana held on Saturday, the 9th May, 2nd Lieutenant Elphinston succeeded in placing the Donkey Race to his credit, while on the 23rd Private Blackwood managed to secure second prize in the Dribbling Race.

* * * * * *

A Tug-of-War between "D" Company of the Seaforths and "H" Company of the Somersets resulted in a rather easy win for the Highlanders.

* * * * * *

The various Corps represented at Dalhousie are distributed as under :—

Ticca Spur—
Four Companies, Somerset Light Infantry.
Band, Somerset Light Infantry.
Band, Hants Regiment.
Depôt—
Two Companies, King's Royal Rifles under canvas.
Royal Artillery details under canvas.
Convalescents, King's Royal Rifles, Somersets, and Seaforths.
Banikhet—
Convalescents, "Buffs," Devons, Royal Scots Fusiliers, Ninety-third, and Royal Artillery.
Maukote—
Two Companies, Seaforths.
Two Companies, Hants.

* * * * * *

The regimental football team of the Somersets played Maukote Camp on the 21st May. The latter team was composed of eight Seaforths, from "D" and "F" Companies (Meiklejohn being the only regimental player) and three of the Hants Regiment. The game ended in favour of Maukote by two goals to *nil*, a high wind spoiling what would otherwise have been a most interesting game.

———

IN MEMORIAM.

—o—

Hushed and still for ever more
Is the subject of this song,
The blame must lie at some one's door;
Who broke the faithful guard-room gong?

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News from Chirat.

(*From our own correspondent*).

—o—

Leaving Nowshera Railway Station early on the morning of the 8th May we—the two last drafts, reinforced by some invalids—reached Pabbi in rather less than an hour and there detrained. After the baggage had been loaded on mules we commenced our journey, one solitary piper boldly playing in front and a nine-miles march ahead of us. The sun came out after we were about five miles on the road and made things a little uncomfortable, but, notwithstanding the extreme heat, the detachment arrived in camp in good condition and ready for breakfast which was served up shortly afterwards. The name of this camping ground was Jelozai situated almost at the foot of the hills up which we had to climb to reach Chirat; the rise in the ground so far had been very slight and the road was in very good condition. After resting in the tents during the heat of the day orders were issued to strike them and to load the mules. This being accomplished, most of us looked round for a soft piece of ground on which to bivouac for the night, and by the time tattoo sounded the majority were sound asleep.

Reveillé sounded at one o'clock and after a certain amount of confusion, consequent upon having to look for things and dress in the dark, the "Fall-in" sounded and we were soon on the road once more. The morning was very dark, there being no signs of a moon or stars and our progress was necessarily slow, whilst to add to our discomfort it commenced to rain; this did not however last long and daylight soon appeared to make us feel more at home.

From Jelozai to Chirat is about 14½ miles and to Chuppri, where we halted for refreshments, about 9½ miles. This part of the road from Chuppri to Chirat is very steep and we were all relieved when a turn in the direction brought the bungalows of Chirat in sight. The top of the hill was soon reached, but it was then discovered that our lines were still another mile away; but this distance was soon covered, the bungalows and tents of the Devons, and Buffs being passed on the road. Having at last arrived at the right place we were much pleased to find that our quarters were bungalows and not tents, especially as the buildings were large and airy, and capable of containing about sixty men each. It was quite a relief to be at our destination and taking all things into consideration the march was a trying one and tested the latest additions from home to the utmost.

Once settled down things are now very quiet, road-making and occasional route marches being the principal employment of the detachment. Water is very scarce and has to be carried up from Chuppri (five miles down the hill) by mules.

So far we have only had six visitors from Nowshera who walked it up, but they all came exhausted, having lost their way among the hills, and, being twelve hours or more on the journey, swear never to attempt it again.

A detachment football team have played the Devons' Cork Club twice, one game a draw—one goal each—and the other a win for the Ninety-third detachment by one goal to *nil*. The same team played "The Buffs" detachment, winning by two goals to one.

The usual Queen's Birthday celebration came off, the troops being drawn up in line and firing a *feu-de-joie*, band playing, three cheers and return to barracks.

The strength of the various Corps here is about as follows:—Devon Regiment (Head-quarters) 700, "The Buffs" 250; Royal Artillery, 20; and ourselves 230 more or less.

—: o :—

Trooping the Colours.

—o—

TROOPING the Colours has been the occasion of a military display on the Sovereign's Birthday since the time of George II. The invention of the parade is attributed to the Duke of Cumberland, then Colonel of the 1st Foot Guards. This Commanding Officer professed to be scandalised at the uncertain gait and unsteadiness of his officers, who showed that they had scarcely recovered from the night's orgies, the parade in those days being fixed at the early hour of six in the morning. The Duke therefore devised manœuvres which required each officer to march slowly and separately in a straight line direct to his post, the least irregularity being easily detected. Although fortunately the necessity for this test no longer exists, the parade still continues to be carried out by the Guards in its original form.

—: o :—

Second Sight.

—o—

A MAN in a Highland Militia Regiment was promoted a Lance-Corporal. As soon as his cheveron was sewn on, he applied for leave for the remainder of the day, stating that "she pe want tae get her likeness pottygraphed—wi' ta pit tape on her airm—ta send tae her freens."

"But another time will do for that, surely," remarked his Captain. "You appear to be in a great hurry."

"Weel, her nainsell pe gaun tae ta pap teesin o'ta piper's pairnie, whaur she mich get fery fou, whatefer, sae that anither time she michtna hae ta stripe."

Permission to go being refused, Tonal' took that species of leave known as French. His surmise proved to be correct. He got "fery fou" indeed at the Christening, and was relieved of his stripe, as well as confined to barracks for the rest of the training.—*The Regiment.*

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What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it].

THAT the pdis hae been on the war path anice mair.

That they didna hae a capture.

That this is "sich a nice quiet place."

That mairchin' tae the hills is no mairchin' tae the New Forest.

That the last twa drafts hae discovered this

That ane o' the R. P. has a guid conciet o' hissel'

That it's "under the punkah" again for anither summer.

That ae pair chiel's found a wattery grave at last.

That it's jist what it thoucht wud happen aforelang.

That a certain Sairgent must hae a parteecular spite at the gong.

That gin the fitba' team's for Simla this year it's aboot time they were taken in haund.

That tae dae ony guid ava they should hae a chance for the hills.

That it's a guid auld sayin' gin a thing's worth daein', its worth daein' weel.

That "H" Company hae been distinguishing themselves at the range.

That they were vera nearly haein tae pey the fun'al expenses o'twa markers.

That its cusin at Chirat has an awfu lot tae say for a young fella.

That its Chirat cusin says:—

That the mairch wis maist awfu'.

That there were nae flees (New Forest anes).

That sum ane wis twice lost.

That it's no sae bad mairchind' gin ye hae a tonga.

That twa doolies instead o' ane wad be an improvement o'nichts.

That it kens a chiel wha didna need ony snaw tae keep himsel' cool.

—:o:—

DEATHS.

Ross.—At Stirling, on the 20th April, William Ross, late Master Tailor, Stirling Depôt.

Jackson.—At Nowshera, on the 5th ultimo, David, son of Private D. Jackson, "G" Company.

McGregor.—At Nowshera, on the 10th ultimo, No. 4900, Private W. McGregor, "B" Company, drowned whilst bathing in the Kabul river.

Wilcox.—At Nowshera, on the 15th ultimo, No. 1650, Private W. Wilcox, "B" Company, of remittent fever.

Nowshera in 1857.

—o—

THE first shock of the mutiny in the Panjab was felt at Nowshera. The 55th Native Infantry then were in garrison here, and, as usual, every confidence in the men was felt by their officers. Fortunately Peshawar was in strong hands who were not guilty of the mistaken leniency that had caused all the trouble in the Lower Provinces. In addition to the 55th Native Infantry, the 27th Inniskillings, the 10th Native Irregular Cavalry and a Battery of Artillery formed the Nowshera Garrison, whilst the Guides were, as now, at Hoti Mardan.

When the news of the Meerut massacre was brought to Nowshera by a camel orderly from Peshawar early on the morning of the 12th May, orders were also brought to form a moveable column at once to crush any movement in the Panjab and move to the relief of Delhi. The Guides from Mardan were immediately pushed on, and a wing of the 55th Native Infantry and some of the 10th Irregulars sent to Mardan to replace them. A company of the 55th were also at Khyrabad, and here they broke out in open mutiny and attempted to go to Mardan to raise their comrades there. The bridge-of-boats at Nowshera was, however, cut away, and some of the Inniskillings who had not left with the moveable column forced them up the river where they eventually joined their mutineer comrades from Mardan. Nicholson pursued them, however, and besides killing many, brought in over one hundred prisoners who were blown away from the guns at Peshawar before a parade of the whole garrison and thousands of frontier men, Affridis, Mamands and Eusafzais. Such was the effect of this summary punishment upon these wild tribesmen that they flocked in hundreds to the British standard, firmly convinced that *Isme* favoured the *topewallahs*. Those of the 55th who escaped the vengeance of Nicholson find a shelter in the Swat Valley and formed the nucleus of the Hindu colony which eventually caused the Umbeyla Campaign of 1866.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Corporal (Paid Establishment.)—No. 4143, Lce.-Corpl. Charters, "F" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 4868, Private H. Gifford; and No. 3063, Private R. Wardrop, "A" Company; No. 3563, Private J. Allison; and No. 3885, Private E. Mahoney, "C" Company; No. 3759, Private A. Peace, "F" Company; and No. 2736, Bandsman W. Hall; No. 3646, Private W. Short and No. 4220, Private F. Young, "G" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem :—

"C" Company.

No. 3563, Lce.-Corpl. J. Allison. | No. 355, Pte. G. Ritchie.
" 3556, Pte. J. Black. | " 356, " C. Alker.
No. 3559, Pte. J. Farquharson.

"D" Company.

No. 3541, Pte. J. Conn

"E" Company.

No. 3560, Pte. M. Hales.

"F" Company.

No. 3557, Pte. F. Hiscock

Restored 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 3205, Pte. J. Todd. | No. 3259, Pte. J. Sullivan.

"E" Company.

No. 3207, Pte. H. Gosling.

Granted 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 4712, Pte. J. Brown. | No. 3803, Pte. S. Brown.

"B" Company.

No. 5062, Pte. R. Hunter. | No 5105, Pte. N. Edgar.

"C" Company.

No. 5081, Pte. R. Kelly.

"D" Company.

No. 5113, Pte. J. McInnes. | No 5112, Pte. H. Crawford.

"E" Company.

No. 4646, Pte. E. Gowans. | No. 4594, Pte. J. Barclay.

"F" Company.

No. 4693, Pte. J. Nolan.

"G" Company.

No. 5115, Pte. R. Jamieson.

"H" Company

No. 5090, Pte. J. Meehan. | No. 409, Pte. J. Duncan.

Restored 1d. per diem :—

"E" Company.

No. 1354, Pte. J. Randds.

"D" Company.

No. 3328, Pte. W. Cook. | No. 339, Pte. D. Elliott.

Granted 3d per diem :—

"G" Company.

No. 1348 Pte. D. Jackson.

EMPLOYMENT.

As Billiard Markers in Regimental Library—No. 4168, Pte. T. Mansfield, "B" Company; No. 3201, Pte. J. Sparling, "E" Company.

In Post Office as Clerk.—No. 3458, Pte. W. Seabrke, "E" Company.

Regimental Conservancy.—No. 3759, Lancecorporal A. Peace, "F" Company.

Station Butcher.—No. 4395, Lce.-Corpl. A. Hter, "H" Company.

In Orderly-Room as Clerk.—No. 2534, Pt J. Archer, "B" Company.

In A. T. A. as Barman.—No. 4132, Pte. F. Sr, "D" Company.

In Officers' Mess.—No. 3531, Corpl. F. C. Mis, "H" Company.

In Regimental School.—No. 3095, Pte. J. Watson, "C" Company.

In charge of Plunge Bath.—No. 3341, Private F. Payne, "F" Company.

To be Acting Bandsman.—No. 2035, Private E. Chidley, "B" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete 21 years: —

No. 1778 Color-Sergeant T. A. Swan, "C" Company.
" 2325, Sergeant A. Peggie, "E" "
" 2299, " Piper A. Ferguson, "G" "
" 3519, " W. Smith, "D" "
" 1348, Pte. D. Jackson, "G" "
" 2891, " C. Kelly, "A" "

TRANSFERS.

From 1st Gordon Highlanders.—Pte. Ed. Blythe, posted to "B" Company.

To Ferozeore Arsenal.—Armourer-Sergeant Hockaday.

From Ferozepore Arsenal.— " " Holden.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted 2nd Class Certificate of Education :—

No. 3933, Lce.-Corpl. D. Black "C" Company.
" 5213, Pte. D. McBain, "E" "
" 4639, " W. McKinnon, "G" "

SUPPLY CERTIFICATE.

Passed Course of Instruction in Commissariat Supply Duties.—No. 3153, Sergeant W. Murdoch, "B" Company.

—o—

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions from the following :—

FOR TWO YEARS.

Major W. F. Fullarton, Ayr.

FOR ONE YEAR.

Captain J. W. Gordon, Kirn, Argyllshire.

Sergeant J. Tyndall, "E" Company.

Lce.-Corporal Spittal, "D" "

Sergeant G. J. Artlett, Staff Clerk Department, Sinla.

ERRATTA.

On page 24 read the names Hutton "B" Company 2nd and Kay "F" Company 3rd in the Sack Race instead of the names mentioned.

Also on page 25 add the name of Private Gordon (3373) to "D" Company's Tug-of-War team.

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SMA' GLEN

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 4—Vol. III. NOWSHERA,—JULY 1896. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

SOME TIME ago it was suggested that Dumbarton Castle should be made the head-quarters of our third battalion instead of Stirling, nothing further however has been heard of the proposed change, and the idea has apparently fallen through. It could hardly be so economical as the present arrangement, though perhaps the permanent staff would not object to the change.

* * * * * *

A mournful event—a funeral—ushered in the month of June. The Paymaster-Sergeant of the Devonshire Regiment had been found the previous afternoon on the Chirat road, about four miles from barracks, evidently suffering from sunstroke. He had, as soon as possible, been carried to hospital, but succumbed soon after reaching there, the cause of death being heat apoplexy. It is not known how he came to be on this road; and it can only be surmised that deceased had been visiting Nowshera, and was walking back to his regiment at Chirat when he was overcome by the heat.

The funeral took place on the evening of the 1st, all our Sergeants, not on duty, attending, together with many of the deceased's own regiment, who had come from Chirat and Peshawar to pay their last respects to a dead comrade.

* * * * * *

The Chitral Reliefs have at last been effected, and the late Kila Drosh garrison is once more back in India. On the 5th ultimo the 2/3 Gurkhas marched into the rest-camp here, and trained the same night to Naziabad; the 25th Punjab Infantry followed the next day *en route* to Mian Mir; and Sunday, the 7th, saw No. 1 Company, Bengal Sappers and Miners, and a section of No. 4 Hazara Mountain Battery on their respective ways to Rurki and Abbottabad. Lieutenant A. H. Maclean, officiating as Station Staff Officer, has had his hands full during these few days.

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For the present the band and pipes play in the Hospital compound every Wednesday evening for one hour.

* * * * * *

Some men of the 38th Dogras are at present undergoing instruction with Drum-Major Jackson in the manipulation of the drumsticks. At present the Dogras' pipe band has but two side drummers in addition to the big drum, the remaining so-called drummers carrying the bugle only. Under the tuition of the Drum-Major and Lance-Corporal MacRae, however, there will soon be a full complement of drummers to accompany the Dogras' pipes on the march.

* * * * * *

Four companies have now completed their annual musketry course, and a fifth ("D") has started. "H" Company finished with an average of 120·35 for seventy-nine men completed. Sergeant G. Gunn wears the "gold guns" (no pun intended), and there are in addition eleven other marksmen.

* * * * * *

The weather during the past month has been getting gradually hotter day by day, culminating on the 21st, when in the verandah of the officers' bungalow it registered 119⅓° as the maximum temperature, and this under the shade of heavy chicks. From experience we should imagine that the heat here during the hottest part of the day is even greater than at Mian Mir; though the mean temperature is no doubt less, as the nights, and especially the mornings, are comparatively cool, while the pretty consistent breezes, unless from a southerly direction, are very refreshing. Dust-storms have been of almost daily occurrence and, although unpleasant, are undoubtedly a blessing in disguise.

* * * * * *

There is naturally little or nothing of an exciting nature to relieve the monotony, though a midnight alarm was promised for the 14th ultimo, and elaborate instructions were issued. "Three guns in rapid succession" were not fired, however, and nothing of an unusual nature disturbed one's slumbers that night. Everyone was prepared, however, for an emergency, and no doubt a "time" record would have been made in turning out had the "Alarm" sounded.

Sport of any kind in the shape of cricket or football naturally cannot be contemplated with the thermometer in its present feverish condition, and even the sergeants' tennis court is little used. The devotees of Isaac Walton, however, can still be counted by scores, especially upon the Sabbath: but this, as the poet says, "is another story," and our fighting Editor is at present away on leave.

* * * * * *

Enteric has of late been rather prevalent, and it is with sorrow that we have to record several deaths from this baneful disease.

The medical authorities consider the water at fault, and in addition to boiling it, permanganate of potass, is placed in all the filters, giving the water a bright pink colour and a slightly astringent taste. After a few hours, however, water treated in this manner is supposed to be absolutely free from baccilli of any description, and perfectly harmless for drinking purposes, having in addition antiseptic qualities.

* * * * * *

Colour-Sergeant Duguid, at one time Colour-Sergeant of "F" Company, and at present Sergeant Instructor in our 7th Volunteer Battalion, has been granted a medal for "Long Service and Good Conduct."

* * * * * *

The battalion can now boast of four Indian Medals for the Waziristan Expedition, 1894-95: the recipients are Captain M. McNeill, who was Brigade Signaller with the 2nd Brigade; Sergeant Weller and Private McRae, "G" Company, who were with the 2nd Batttalion Border Regiment, the latter away, time-expired; and Private C. Burch, "F" Company, who was with the force as a Telegraphic Signaller.

The latter will also obtain the Chitral Medal when issued, and this should be soon, as rolls of those entitled to this decoration have been called for.

* * * * * *

There was an open air concert on the 24th ultimo, which went off most successfully. This is the first, and they are, if possible, to take place weekly during the remainder of the hot weather.

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Our first battalion is to be more than congratulated for its record shooting at the Ash ranges. An average of just under 99 out of a possible 105 is, indeed, something to be proud of, and we publish the full detail of the scores from the *Aldershot News* of June 6th.

The result is doubly gratifying to us, as Colour-Sergeant "Cluny" Macpherson and Armourer-Sergeant Burgess both formerly served in this battalion, the former being Colour-Sergeant of "F" Company in 1891, and going to the depôt before we came abroad, and the latter formerly one of our old regimental team which won the "Inter-Regimental Prize" at the Curragh Camp in 1889. This prize was worth £50, and with it was added to the Mess plate two massive silver candlesticks to commemorate the event; a small silver shield, suitably inscribed, was also presented to the Sergeants' Mess as a memento of the match. Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry McPhail made 34 at 200 yards and 35 at 500 yards in this match, thus only being one off the possible for the first two distances, and this was with the old targets, Martini-Henry rifle and black powder.

* * * * * *

"D" Company finished musketry (individual firing up to 800 yards) on the 26th ultimo, and "F" have started. Private Downey is "D" Company's "shot," though he only got it by a score of 26 at the final distance. There are in all five marksmen. "A" and "G" are now the only companies to be exercised.

* * * * * *

The sergeants started a tennis tournament on the 23rd, when the first round was played.

* * * * * *

The last mail from home brought us a letter and an annual subscription from our old Quartermaster, Honorary Captain S. Forbes. His letter is dated from Edinburgh, and we cannot do better than reproduce some of it here. Captain Forbes, after making many kind illusions to the *Thin Red Line*, continues:—

"I trust that you are all keeping well, and fit for anything that may turn up. I have seen Lieutenants Darroch and Patten since they came home, they look quite fit.

"I have also seen our old Colonel, Colonel Trotter, looking, I am glad to say, in perfect health.

"I also have been talking to a number of men who have joined the Reserve during the last few years, and their cry, one and all, is: 'I'm sorry I left the Regiment.' It is so hard to get employment after one has been in the army for some years, and employers of labour hesitate to employ men who are liable to be called up at anytime; in addition, most of the men, if they had a trade before joining, have entirely forgotten what they knew.

"I hope you like your new station better than Mian Mir. Have seen a few old hands who were with the regiment when they last lay in Nowshera, and they tell me they did not consider it at all a good place to be stationed in. I suppose you do not yet know where you are to go to next? For the want of any more news I shall come to a halt, wishing you all a pleasant time in India."

* * * * * *

The hundred or so time-expired men who will be leaving the battalion during next trooping season would do well to peruse that part of Captain Forbes' letter relating to the reserve men he has met in Edinburgh, and those with us whose time with the colours is about to expire should let others' experience be their gain, and think twice before they leave that profession in which they have acquired proficiency, and in which they stand no chance of joining the already too full ranks of the unemployed.

* * * * * *

Captain Robinson returned from leave on the 26th ultimo.

* * * * * *

Half a dozen of the football team left by the evening train on Saturday, the 27th ultimo, for Chirat for duty, and to commence training, we presume, for the Simla Cup Tournament. They will further be strengthened on arrival by the inclusion of some of the detachment team, who have been in the hills for the last two months, and have played several matches with successful

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results. This is probably the last opportunity the majority of the team will have of retrieving former misfortunes, and they should endeavour, by every means in their power, to give that most important element of football—luck—no chance of competing against them. This cannot be done without self-denial as well as careful training; and we hope, in fact feel assured, they will leave not a stone unturned to make themselves as near perfection as possible and capable of wiping out their former reverses.

* * * * * *

As for the purpose for which they have been sent to the hills, nothing seems definite, and no one has been placed in charge to superintend their training; it is no doubt intended, however, as was said before, to enter them for the Durand Tournment at Simla, which commences on the 14th September. If not, little will have been gained; the majority go home early this trooping season, and will consequently not be available to represent the regiment in the Bengal-Punjab Army Cup matches, which are not played until the cold weather is pretty far advanced. For this league an almost entirely new team will have to be chosen, so you young players in the "Forties" take every opportunity you can of kicking a football, as there'll be a chance for you next cold season.

* * * * * *

By authority, Punjab Command Order No. 269, dated 5th May 1896, Lieutenant J. Campbell has passed the Lower Standard Examination in Pushtu.

* * * * * *

2nd Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish has been granted a signalling certificate from Kasauli.

* * * * * *

All the time-expired men of next trooping season will leave the Peshawar District early in October for Deolali, *en route* for Bombay and Home. In the ordinary course of events over 100 men will be time-expired this year.

* * * * * *

Pigeon fancying is the latest in the battalion; the Band and "F" Company have several pairs of homers.

"Digby Chicks."

(A Lament.)

YES! they were strong, t'was past a joke,
I was in a peculiar fix;
For even the old pipe I smoke
Was flavoured with those "Digby Chicks."

At dinner too,—for we'd been paid,—
Of strongest onions—I had six—.
An Irish stew the cook had made,
Still I detected "Digby Chicks."

When canteen opened, there I fled
And emptied many a cook-house dix—
——cy full of beer, though, truth be said,
I could not drown those "Digby Chicks."

MAC.

———:o:———

Judging Distance.

—o—

ALL my military readers, and especially the staff employed men, know probably more about the above mentioned subject than I do myself, but, for the sake of those of more peaceful occupations, I will attempt to give some explanation of this most important parade. Once a month there is a parade known as "Monthly Musketry," and it is then that "Judging Distance" takes place. The chief idea seems to be to impart a sort of mild excitement to the otherwise somewhat monotonous life of a soldier. Judging Distance is a sort of lottery, a kind of missing distance competition, and here I better assure any anti-gambling league members that it is strictly legal.

The officer in charge of the parade points out some object, whether in view or not is really immaterial, the only rules governing the competition being that the distance must be over 100 and under 1,000 yards; then each soldier goes out in turn and guesses the distance, and after all the guesses are registered and checked, the Musketry Instructor *pro tem* announces the correct (?) distance. It may be as well to state that the word "correct" is used simply for appearances,—the dictionary meaning of the term should not be taken into consideration,—and any

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guessing within 30 yards of the distance given out receives 2 points; within 50 yards 1 point. There are always four distances to be guessed, so the possible amount of marks is 8, but very few manage more than 4.

As a guide to beginners I would suggest that 230, 560, 690, and 950 are really lucky numbers., and I have often scored 6 with them. In small stations, where there are but few points to guess on, one would naturally suppose that the difficulty in obtaining marks was considerably lessened; far from it, here the subtlety of the game comes out strongly. In fact, I have known an apparently substantially built, well-regulated church, move about in the most extraordinary manner month by month: for from 420 yards from a given point in, say, the month of May, from the same point in June the same church has skipped to a distance of 650 yards. Similar results have been obtained from solid looking trees and common dull stupid looking palings, and a large rock firmly fixed in a *khud* side used to wander about in a very irresponsible and remarkable manner. However, there is no doubt "Judging Distance" teaches the soldier one grand lesson, *viz.*, "Ne fronti crede."

MAC.

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Open Air Concert.

—o—

THERE was an open air concert in barracks on the night of Wednesday, 24th ultimo, a stage being erected near "H" Company's bungalow and seats arranged around the roped enclosure. At the first post of tattoo the pipes and drums played through the lines for the "Fall in," and with the arrival of Major Napier and the Officers from Mess, soon afterwards, the concert commenced. The night was quite a cool one considering, and the moon supplied any deficiency in the lighting arrangements. The audience, as was only to be expected, was large and not too critical, the "canteen side" of the house being quite demonstrative, if a little out of time in the chorus, and applauding everything vociferously. Two old favourites (Lance-Corporals Brodie and Halleron), who have not been seen on the boards since our first year in Mian Mir, made a re-appearance, and were as good as ever. All the various items were well received; a comic song in French was a novelty, at which everyone smiled and pretended they knew what it was about; the instrumental soloists were, it is needless to say, not to be judged by their size; and "India's Reply" delighted the "Jingoes," who probably amounted to ninety-nine per cent. As these "Gaffs" are to take place weekly during the continuance of the present hot weather, we hope the chairman's invitation to the regimental talent will not be neglected.

To Lieutenant Tweedie, Bandmaster Davies, Colour-Sergeant Spedding and Sergeant Symcox the credit of organising the entertainment is due, and their efforts to provide amusement during this trying season of the year deserve the fullest recognition from everyone Bandmaster Davies officiated as accompanyist, and on Sergeant Symcox devolved the onerous duties of stage manager and perambulating chairman.

Appended is the programme:—

Overture ...	... "Carnivalia" ...	... The Band.
Song ...	"Christmas Day" ...	Corpl. RICHMOND.
Song (Comic)	"Where I'm Lodging Now" ...	Bdsn. LYONS.
Cornet Solo ...	"Cleopatra"	„ CRIPPS
Song and Dance	.....	Lce.-Corpls. BRODIE and HALLERON
Recitation ...	"Macbeth" ...	Pte. CUNNINGHAM.
Planters' Scene	"The Darkies' Serenade"	The Band.
Song ...	"India's Reply" ...	Corpl. HYNCH
Song ...	"Glorious Beer" ...	Pte. ELLIOTT.
Selection ...	... "Festivalia" ...	The Band
Song ...	"Sunshine's Abode" ...	Bdsn. BENSON
Club Swinging	.....	Lce.-Corpl. REID.
Piccolo Solo	... "Liliputian" ...	Bdsn. WILCOX.
Song ...	"Ou, la la"	Lce.-Corpl. HANSEN.
Galop ...	.....	The Band.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

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The Andaman Isles.

—o—

(By Captain Sydney L. Robinson).

NOT the least beautiful, though perhaps one of the least known, of our Eastern possessions is the Andaman Island group. These islands form part of the ridge which runs in a curve from somewhere south of Calcutta to a little north of the Island of Sumatra, and which, though mostly submerged, undoubtedly exists.

The Andamans are the great penal settlement of India, and are ruled by a Chief Commissioner, with "the usual trimmings" in the shape of subordinates, while a body of police and three companies of European Infantry safeguards the white residents. The port is called Port Blair, and the landing-places are on the Island of Ross, which stands at the mouth of a large natural harbour. On Ross are the Chief Commissioner's house, the barracks and the Government buildings. Also some convict barracks accommodating a couple of hundred convicts or so. Ross is about two miles round, and further up the harbour are the Islands of Chatham and Viper on the latter of which is the gaol in which another hundred or two hundred convicts are kept. The remainder of the evil doers of the community, numbering some 1,200 or thereabouts, are stationed in barracks on the main island.

The thing that strikes one at once is the immense amount of liberty which is accorded to the bulk of the convicts. After a probationary period in the gaol they are, if well conducted, relegated to barrack life, and work in gangs; each gang under its jemadar, also a convict. All the labour of the place is done by these lawbreakers, and nearly all the domestic work too. Convicts row your boat, wash your clothes, cook your dinner, and carry your messages. The majority carry a wooden label round their necks on which is marked the sentence, date of conviction and article of the Penal Code under which they have been convicted. Custom reconciles to everything, but to the new arrival it gives a bit of a shock to see the gangs, without any guard, beyond a few police come pouring into the ship to unload cargo, especially when a glimpse at their labels, reveals the fact that the bulk of them are "lifers" convicted of murder or manslaughter. Our chief safeguard against a rising however, lies in the difference of caste, which tend dead against co-operation, and it has been found that in nearly every one of the few abortive attempts at mutiny that have been made, information has been given by the convicts themselves, who do not hesitate to betray men of another caste, if by so doing they can reap any benefit. Further, I am told it has, and with reason, been the practice to reward the informer both with money and a free pardon, and so far this system has worked well. Should the system fail to work well on any occasion though, one does not like to think of what would be the result.

Of the natives of the Andamans, but little is known. They are rumoured to be caniabals and the greater part are quite untameable, and not only shun the white man, but will shoot him with their bows and arrows if they get a chance.

Some few, however, have been "tamed," and have their villages within the settlement limits. The appearance of these people is absolutely different to that of almost any race one meets in the east. They are very short almost dwarfs, but well formed and strong. Their features are of the negro type, not, however, quite so pronounced in the matter of flatness of nose and protuberance of lips. Their hair is wool.

The wild Andamanese go about in a state of absolute nudity, but those who have their villages near the settlement make concessions to decency, to an extent which possibly satisfies their ideas of propriety, though it would surely bring the "blush of shame to the cheek of the young person." The men's costume consists of a tiny bag of rag or cotton kept in its place by a string passing round the waist: that of th ladies is more elaborate though even more horrifying. To a narrow loop of wool, which they wear round the waist is fastened, in rear, a sort of bustle made of branches with leaves on, which sticks out at right angles, and in front, *one leaf* about 5 inches long by 1½ inches broad. The

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men paint themselves in dots and lines about the face and body, and both men and women are as black as coal. However they dye their wool brick-dust red colour. As regards their social life I am told that man and wife behave faithfully to one another when once married, but previous to marriage, the morals of both sexes are about on a par with those of the monkey. A widow paints herself white all over with some sort of lime, but for how long she wears this I cannot say. Those living in the settlement are to a certain extent supported by Government, who employ them to track escaped convicts, which they do most successfully.

The Andamanese race is quickly dying out I am informed, and disease has crept in among them to a large extent. Of the beauty of the islands much might be said, but to attempt a description of its flora and fauna would be beyond the scope of this short paper, and far beyond the knowledge of the writer.

On parade he went shining and neat,
But kept on moving and shifting his feet ;
Said the Sergeant, " Stand still,"
" Or I'll mark you for drill,"
" Are you drunk, in the rats ? " or, stay, are you ill ?
But he answered " Its prickly-heat. "

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it].

THAT a magnifyin' glass his been pit tae a maist oreeg'nal use.

That " H " Company hae addit anither para. tae the theoreetical preencipies o' musketry.

That it believes the'force o' gravity is affected by a pair o' shoes.

That it kens a man wha disna like tae hear tunics mentioned.
That his first attempt as army contractor wis no sae veira successfu'.
That it wis a' thro' the condemned mark.
That " pack drill " is bad for the heid.
That bear baitin' on the Sabbath brings its ain reward.
That it's mebbe " a lang road that his nae turnin'," but it's a langer ane that has owre mony.
That it tak's a W. O., a sairgent, twa lance-corporals an' an actin orderly corporal tae ca' the roll o' a certain company.
That lukin' for a needle in a bottle o' hay is nothin' compared tae lukin' for———, and the polis hae no found him yet.
That the early bird disna aye catch the worm,
That it sometimes catches C. B. instead.
That loosewallahs wad hae had a gey auld time o' it on the nicht of the 24th.
That its gled tae see open air gaffs hae startit.
That the chairman wis unco' canny how he announcit.
That it supposes orderly sairgents and sich like folk are no subject tae sunstroke.
That the doolie has been runin' about jist owre muckle lately.
That it is no a bad idea tae sit behint the C. O. at a Gaff.
That some ane has been tryin' tae tak' a rise out o' the Sairgent Ins. o' Mus—(Here you really mus'nt.—ED.)
That the fitba' team is away tae the hills.
That they shud try their best for the last time.
That its cusin at Chirat says :—
That some ane had a wrestlin' match.
That he only cam' off second best.
That " Geordie " didna mean tae owre sleep himsel when the honour o' the 9 an' 3 wis at stake.
That even " The Campbells are comin' " is a maist mighty pleasant soond tae hear o' times.
That khud sticks are in requisition every Friday evenin'.
That pani is scarce.
That the " Furlo' " draft are no pleased wi' their name.
That Chirat pits them in mind o' Edinboro' Castle on a blawy day.
That it is maist anxious tae mak' the acquaintance o' the " Inspired Idiot."

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Chirat News.

(By our own Correspondent).

EVERYTHING up here has been fairly quiet this month; the only thing of note being that at present we are "out of bounds" to every one, as cholera is supposed to be lurking at Jelozai, midway between here and Pabbi, on the tonga road.

In the way of amusement there have been two open air concerts, one given by the Devon Regiment, and the other by "The Buffs" detachment. These concerts are held on the respective drill squares, at one end of which a stage is erected, and lights burn brightly here and there; the stage is surrounded by crowds of appreciative "Tommies," huge rocks tower overhead, the band plays bright and catchy music between the songs, the pale moonbeams ripple gently over every coign of vantage, and altogether the scene is one not easily to be forgotten and worthy of the brush of an artist.

Football, as is only to be expected, is our favourite pastime, and, so far, the detachment team has covered itself with glory. The latest victory was to the tune of 2 to 1 over a team of the Devon's, including six of their regimental players. It was far and away the best match played since we came here; the game was very fast and exciting, the spectators were numerous, and the band of the Devon Regiment discoursed sweet music close by.

The results of the matches played, so far, have been as follows:—

v. Devon's Cork Club	Drawn	(1—1)
v. "Buffs" Detachment	Won	(2—1)
v. Devon's Cork Club	Won	(1—0)
v. "E" & "F" Coy.'s Devon's	Won	(1—0)
v. "Buffs" Detachment	Won	(3—0)
v. Devon's Cork Club	Won	(3—0)
v. Scratch Team, Devon's	Won	(2—1)

Total—Won, 6; Drawn, 1; Lost 0; Goals, 13 for, 3 against.

The following have composed the team:—

Privates Kerr (*Goal*); Gibson and Gordon (*Backs*); Mitchell McLean and Martin (*Half Backs*): McTaggart, Jamieson, Russell, Cairns and Clements (*Forwards*).

Most of the regimental team (about half-a dozen players) have now arrived from Nowshera, so even some better matches may be expected, though it is doubtful whether the results could be more satisfactory than they have been, and the executive might do worse than include some of the best of the detachment players in the regimental team.

—:o:—

The Temperature.

—o—

THE following is the daily temperature registered by Lieutenant Johnston-Stewart in the verandah of the Officers' bungalow during last month:—

June.	Minimum. °	Maximum. °
1	... ...	107
2	... ...	109
3	... ...	102
4	... ...	103
5	... ... 87	105
6	... ... 86	104½
7	... ... 84	108½
8	... ... 90	112½
9	... ... 90	114
10	... ... 92	115
11	... ... 89	115½
12	... ... 89	117
13	... ... 90	117
14	... ... 95	103
15	... ... 86	108
16	... ... 90	110½
17	... ... 87	111
18	... ... 95	111
19	... ... 91	115
20	... ... 95	116
21	... ... 91	119½
22	... ... 98	103½
23	... ... 92	106
24	... ... 96	108
25	... ... 92	111
26	... ... 96	114
27	... ... 93	113
28	... ... 93	109
29	... ... 96	112
30	... ... 90	113

OVERHEARD IN THE NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' MESS, FORT ATTOCK.—Corporal (calling): Waiter! Waiter: Hullo!—C.: Are you doing anything?—W.: No.—C.: Then come here when you've done.

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Temperance Topics.

—o—

THE SUTHERLAND CORK CLUB.

(Communicated).

—o—

UNDER this name the leading temperance members of the regiment have formed a club for the purpose of providing amusement for the winter months. The idea, although novel, is not original, having emanated from the Devons, who have a similar club in their regiment. Its novel feature is that the club represents a ship's company, H. M. S. *Sportive;* members being styled and uniformed according to their rating. There is an admiral, a captain, officers, warrant officers, petty officers and crew, with a proportionate number of marines—in all sixty, which is limit of membership.

A most successful smoker was given at the beginning of the month, a large number in addition to the Club being present. Corporal Rastall (Captain) occupied the chair, and a the very pleasant evening was spent.

PROGRAMME.

Opening Song	"Red, White and Blue." MEMBERS.
Remarks	Corporal RASTALL
Song	"I dreamt my little boy of thee." Private BAXTER.
Song	"The Ballybama Coon." Private McBRAIN.
Song	"Forgive, Forget." Private SHORT.
Song	"Come home, dear Father (Parody). Private DOBSON.
Song	"Just before the battle, Mother." (Parody). Private SIMMONS.
Song	"Out on the Ocean." Bandsman CRAWFORD.
Song	"Trinity Church." Bandsman HICKMAN.
Song	"Polly Pluck." Corporal JOHNSTONE.
Song	"Olympia." Private BURGESS.
Encore	"Bells of London."
Bango Song	Private EVANS
Club Swinging	Corporal JOHNSTONE.
Recitation	Corporal JOHNSTONE.
Closing Song	MEMBERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

NOWSHERA.

First thing in the morning, and last thing at night,
Some four or five times in the daytime as well,
One visits the wash-house and soaks with delight
In the tubs, for the heat of this station beats H——.

Record Shooting by the 91st.

AN AVERAGE OF 98·83.

SIX sergeants of the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders have established a record in rifle shooting this week, on Ash ranges, in firing for places in the Army Sixty. The light was dull and the weather calm when the shooting took place and the result was an average for the six of 98·83. Colour-Sergeants Macpherson and Boyd made 101 each, the former getting the possible at 600. Staff-Armourer Burgess made a century, and Colour-Sergeant Hutton 99. Sergeants Cochrane and Robertson registered 96 each. Colour-Sergeant Macpherson sent up eight consecutive bulls at 600 yards, and Sergeant Cochrane put on the possible at 500. The following is the detail of the scoring:—

Rounds.	Bulls.	Inners.	Magpies.	Outers.	Misses.
126	96	27	1	1	1

The range totals were as follows:—

200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.	Possible.
191	205	197	593	630

Out of the 18 sighting shots, 9 were bull's-eyes, 8 inners and one a magpie. The full scores of this record shoot are as follows:—

Colour-Sergeant W. Macpherson.

	S.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total.
200	4	4	5	4	4	5	5	5	32
500	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	34
600	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	35
									101

Colour-Sergeant T. Boyd.

200	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	33
500	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	34
600	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	34
									101

Staff-Armourer W. Burgess.

200	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	32
500	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	34
600	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	34
									100

Colour-Sergeant L. Hutton.

200	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	33
500	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	34
600	4	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	32
									99

Sergeant R. Cochrane.

200	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	29
500	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	35
600	3	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	32
									96

Sergeant C. Robertson.

200	4	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	32
500	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	34
600	5	0	5	5	5	5	5	5	30
									96

—*The "Aldershot News.*

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Prickly-Heat.

—o—

THE wicked, we know, no peace are allowed,
So 'tis said in the beautiful book ;
But this station, I fear, will add to that crowd
If we take but a casual look.

Through a bungalow stroll in the morn about ten,
When the usual dress is but a sheet,
A very fine colour you'll find on the men,
For they're all clad in prickly-heat.

A lobster, we know, when boiled becomes red,
And then—why, it is quite fit to eat ;
But a man's fit for nothing, either up or in bed,
When troubled by prickly heat.

The doctors declare 'tis worth a guinea a spot.
So Beecham's can take a back seat ;
But I reckon a soldier's a bad enough lot
Without all this prickly-heat.

No peace when you're drilling, on guard, or out walking ;
No peace when you drink or you eat ;
No peace when you're sleeping, or smoking, or talking—
If smothered in prickly-heat.

MAC.

BIRTH.

LUNDIE.—At Nowshera, on the 16th May 1896, the wife of Colour-Sergeant R. Lundie, "F" Company, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

VICARS.—At the Station Hospital, Chirat, on the 10th ultimo, No. 3681, Lance-Sergeant E. Vicars, "A" Company, of enteric fever.

MCCOLL.—At the Station Hospital, Nowshera, on the 16th ultimo, No. 3682, Piper Donald McColl, "C" Company, of enteric fever.

HUNTER.—At the Station Hospital, Nowshera, on the 25th ultimo, No. 4395, Lance-Corporal A. Hunter, "H" Company, of enteric fever.

The Two Sailors.

—o—

CAPTAIN Jones relates a "good story" of the conduct of two of the Naval Brigade on sentry duty at Allahabad : "One who was on sentry on the main works of the Fort by moonlight, looking over the parapet, saw another who was sentry on the ravelin, or some outwork. Now Jack, though he could tell the head from the stern of a ship, and perhaps of a horse, had not passed a competitive examination before his admission into the service, and no doubt his education in Fortification and Engineering had been sadly neglected, and, therefore he was not aware that the outwork was not a part of the fortification which he was so vigilantly guarding and seeing a man walk up and down outside what he considered the Fort, and of course his head being full of spies, sepoys, &c., challenged him. The sentry on the outwork, not imagining that it was he who was the subject of his messmate's anxious inquiries, held his peace, upon which Jack in the Fort let drive at Jack on the outwork. The outwork Jack, a little taken aback by the musket ball whizzing near his head, sang out, 'Hullo ! that's your game, is it my buck ! Here's let drive at you, then ! ' and immediately returned the fire. On their being relieved and taken to the guard-house, all that passed between them was : 'Well, I'm blowed, Jack, but we are mortal bad shots, we are.'"

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An Umbeylah Episode.

—o—

SURGEON-GENERAL Munro relates an amusing episode of the Umbeylah Campaign, showing that the amenities of war will effect even the fanatical Yusufzai and Mohmand tribesmen of the North-West Frontier. An outlaying picquet of Punjab Infantry one night found themselves within easy distance of a picquet of hill tribesmen. "Both outposts were lying behind *sungahs*, or stone walls, hurriedly thrown up as a shelter, and were firing at each other, at one moment in regular volleys, at another in single dropping shots. During a short lull, one of the Punjaubees struck up a song, and when he had finished the first few notes, one of the enemy took up the air and sang in reply, and then they went on singing alternate verses, both sides joining in a sort of wild chorus. It was then agreed that they should cease firing at each other for a while so as to prolong the musical entertainment. While the men were engaged in this duet, the Officer Commanding the Punjab Regiment called out to enquire who was the merry musical fellow in the enemy's ranks. The man answered himself, and gave his name, and, if I remember rightly, said he had a brother in the 20th Punjab. Then tired of singing, the enemy cried out they had had enough enjoyment, and were going to resume hostilities. Immediately they discharged a volley, which our people were quick in returning, and then both sides blazed away at each other."

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The Men o 'the Guthrie Draft.

—o—

Wha are the lads baith broad and lang
Wha can sing a guid new comic sang ?
Ma freens, ye'll find them all amang
The men o' the Guthrie Draft.

Wha say the steaks are unco touch,
An' refuse the bawajee an anna for duff
An' say twa pice is aye enouch ?
The men o' the Guthrie Draft.

Wha hae got plenty o' guid new clathes,
An' hae said guid-bye tae the Dilwara's flaes,
Wha'll be in debt for the rest o' their days ?
Some 'o the Guthrie Draft.

Wha are the callants can scoff their pun
An' dae the conjuror wi' a twa anna bun,
An' pass the remark that their appetites graun' ?
The lads o' the Guthrie Draft.

Wha are the chaps that a fu' o' glee,
Wha frae fever and ague noo are free,
Bit micht hae a titch afore 1903 ?
The men o' the Guthrie Draft.

Bit I think I'd better stop ma bleether,
For ae thing it's badly pit thegither ;
Bit I hope ma wife u'll be the mither,
O' men like the Guthrie Draft.

L. FERGUSON.

———:o:———

The Missionary in India.

—o—

THERE is an old saying that Missionaries and Scotchmen are to be found in every hole, corner, and nook of the world. Certain it is that missionaries abound in India, but they did not receive much favour at the hands of Lieutenant G. A missionary subscription list went round the station, and there were various columns in the said list: one for the "monthly donation," "yearly allowance," "sum down," "grand total column." many had given liberally, but Lieutenant G. couldn't. He wanted, however, to make a big show for his money, so entered one pice in the first column, two pice in the second, three in the third, four in the fourth, and then got an anna stamp, and stuck it down on the "Remarks" column, and wrote "paid" across it. He stated how sorry he was not able to give more. He was drawing small pay, and had no allowances for charities. He hoped the good missionaries would be successful in their noble work in converting the wild tribes of Beloochistan, and they might rest assured that he would give the said noble work his moral support. The consequence was he filled up the whole of the remarks column, so that a new list had to be sent out. For this he was put under arrest for the sixth time that week.

MESS STORIES.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

WA MEDALS

The undermentioned have been granted Silver India Medals with Clasps "Wazaristan, 1894-95."

Captain M. McNeill.
No. 3116, Sergeant W. R. Weller, "G" Company.
No. 2969, Private D. McRae, "G" Company.
No. 3485, Private C. Burch, "F" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 3975, Private A. Donnelly, and No. 4846, Private W. Bracey, "B" Company, No. 3798, Private P. Halleron, "F" Company (whilst employed on the Regimental Police), No. 3188, Private C. Devereux, and No. 4119, Private J. Martin, "H" Company.

EMPLOYMENT.

In Officers' Mess.—No. 4295, Lance-Corporal A. Keeble, "H" Company, and No. 3521, Private F. Manley, "F" Company.

DRILL CERTIFICATES.

Musketry Drill Certificates have been granted to the following:—

No. 3297, Lance-Corporal J. McKimm, "B" Company.
,, 2765, ,, ,, J. Murphy, "F" ,,
,, 4062, ,, ,, H. Langdon, "E" ,,
,, 3411, ,, ,, T. Smith, "D" ,,
,, 3596, ,, ,, A. Rankin, "D" ,,

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2*d* per diem :—

"A" Company.
No. 3063, Pte. A. Wardrope. | No. 3548, Pte. C. Greenland,
"B" Company.
No. 3537, Pte. J. Evans. | No. 2035, Pte. E. Clindley.
"C" Company.
No. 3572, Pte. D. Murray. | No. 3579, Pte. A. Casey.
"D" Company.
No. 3596, Lce-Corpl. A. Rankin. | No. 3622, Pte. J. Connell.
,, 3629, ,, ,, F. Poole. | ,, 3611, Lce.-Corpl. A. Maskell.
,, 3627, Pte. J. Burgess. | ,, 3619, Pte. H. Gadd.
No. 3625, Pte. E. Bull.
"E" Company.
No. 3590, Pte. W. Mathieson. | No. 3591, Pte. R. Williams.
No. 3594, Pte. J. Townley.

Restored 2*d* per diem :—

"F" Company.
No. 3241, Pte. J. Payne. | No. 2370, Pte. T. Liddle.

Granted 1*d* per diem :—

"B" Company.
No. 4379, Pte. J. Logan.
"C" Company.
No. 5136, Pte. T. Dale.
"D" Company.
No. 5127, Pte. J. Johnstone. | No. 5122, Pte. J. Campbell.
"E" Company.
No. 5118, Pte. D. MacLean. | No. 5128, Pte. F. Cairns.
"F" Company.
No. 5134, Pte. R. Lightbody. | No. 5132, Pte. J. Wainwright.
No. 4442, Pte. W. Rae.
"G" Company.
No. 4530, Pte. D. Macdonald. | No. 3396, Pte W. Reid.
"H" Company.
No. 4574, Pte. J. Martin. | No. 5160, Pte. D. Preston.
,, 4761, ,, A. Bowe. | ,, 4600, ,, A. Burke.
No. 5150, Pte. R. Thornton.

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Restored 1*d.* per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 4531, Pte. C. Armour. | No. 3605, Pte. J. Mitchell.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4370, Pte. D. McGee. | No. 3488, Pte. D. Ferguson.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 4679, Pte. R. Leitch. | No. 3694, Pte. E. Swaine.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 3290, Pte. T. Gibbons.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 4186, Pte. J. Shearer. | No. 3589, Pte. J. Goff.

No. 2964, Pte. J. Wilson.

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete twelve years with the colours :—
No. 3123, Private W. Johnson, "C" Company.
To complete twenty-one years service :—
No. 2490, Corporal A. Miller, "F" Company.

DISCHARGE.

Discharge by purchase :—
No. 3426, Private J. Brooks, "D" Company.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

Private E. Blythe, "B" Company, has been allotted No. 5778.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The following are the rates of subscriptions to *The Thin Red Line* :—

With postage home or to any country in the Postal Union, non-commissione Officers and men of the Regiment.	Rs. 2 per annum.
Officers and others not connected with Regiment.	Rs. 3 per annum.

The year will begin with the April and, if possible, end with the March Number, or twelve Numbers in all. Those subscribing after April will only pay up to end of next March: but if preferred, full subscriptions can be paid, and back numbers of complete volume (if not out of print) be obtained.

COMPANY AGENTS.

"A" Company	... Lance-Corporal Alison.
"C" "	... Private Ritchie.
"D" "	... Lance-Corporal Rankin.
"E" "	... " " Ballantine.
"G" "	... " " Brodie.
"G" "	... Private Nixon.
"H" "	... Lance-Corporal Haskell.
Band	... " " McRae.
Dalhousie Depôt	... " " G. Watson.
Chirat	... Corporal Lockie.

NOTA BENE.

All connected with the regiment are respectfully invited to send in any items of news they think will prove of interest to our readers, addressed to the Editor, *The Thin Red Line.*

Contributions for insertion in *The Thin Red Line* should be sent in by the 25th of each month.

Contributions should be written clearly, in ink and on one side of the paper only. It should be stated if manuscripts are required to be returned.

The Thin Red Line will be published on the last day of each month, and can be obtained from Company Agents.

Cheques, money orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Manager," to whom all applications for space for advertisements should be made.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have to acknowledge, with many thanks, subscriptions from the following :—

FOR ONE YEAR.

Captain K. B. Cameron.
Second-Lieutenant H. H. G. Hyslop.
Sergeant T. McKenzie, P. W. D. (2 subscriptions).
Second Lieutenant R. J. P. Cox.
Captain R. L'E. McKerrell.
Honorary Captain S. Forbes.

ERRATA.

On page 25 for Bailey "F" Company read Baillie "A" Company, 3rd in the Consolation Race.

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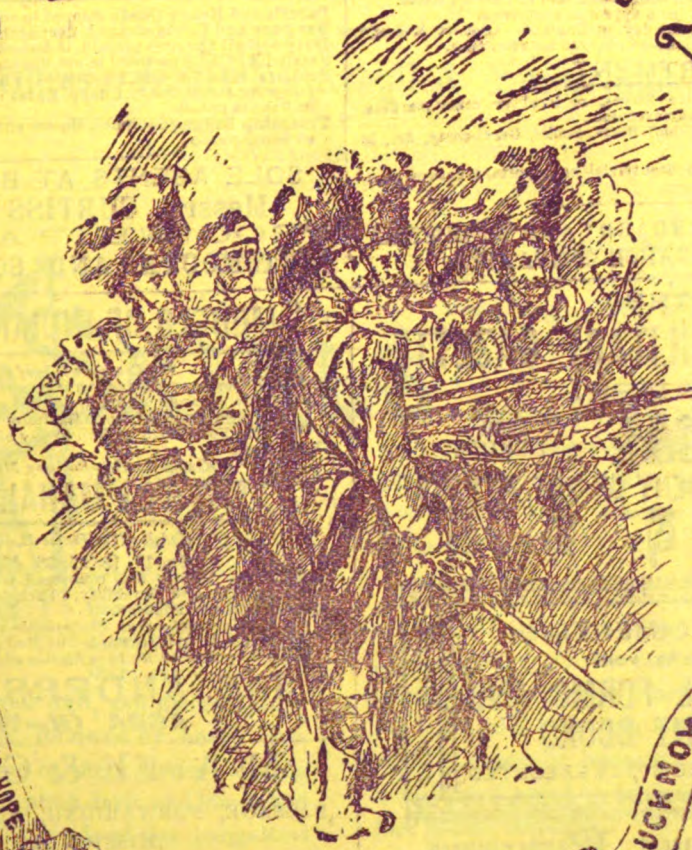
Aug 1896

The Thin Red Line.



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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 5—Vol. III. NOWSHERA,—AUGUST 1896. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

NOWSHERA felt its first and, so far, only experience of the monsoon on Wednesday the first of last month. The morning was cloudy and dull, and about midday quite a hurricane arose, followed by heavy rain, which continued for two or three hours; during this time it was almost pitch dark, and lamps had to be lighted, whilst the inside of the bungalows were filled with whirling dust. The storm was most welcome however, the temperature going down to 79° and continuing low for nearly a week afterwards. The amount of good done by even this short shower must have been immense, everything looking quite refreshed by the welcome downpour. A few trees in the lines and cantonment suffered considerably from the high wind, in some cases branches over one foot in diameter being torn off as though mere twigs; little other damage however was done.

* * * * * *

The usual weekly open-air concert took place in the evening after the storm, the night being deliciously cool and refreshing. Accounts of these weekly concerts appear in another column.

* * * * * *

"B" Company are away on detachment duty at Fort Attock for the next three months. Captain Robinson returned before the expiration of his leave, and took the company down on the early morning of Saturday, the 4th ultimo, the detachment going by train and marching into the fort before daylight. "G" Company returned to head-quarters the same morning, reaching Nowshera before the heat of the day had commenced. The detachment at the Fort was made up to its full strength on Wednesday, the 8th ultimo, when twenty-one rank and file from the sister company, "F," trained to Attock in the evening of that date, after the completion of their annual musketry course.

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Sergeant R. Mitchell is "company shot" of "F" Company this year, in addition to four other marksmen. The company finished firing on the 8th ultimo, the average being an improvement upon last year.

* * * * * *

The eradication of *esprit de corps* seems to have been the pet hobby of the powers that be since the introduction of the so-called territorial system in 1881. The latest suggested little fad—it can be called nothing else—is, that regiments going home from this country, instead of transferring their soldiers of five and less years' service, and those who prefer to remain in India, to the other battalion of their own regiment coming on foreign service, must now distribute their three or four hundred trained men among the other fifty-two battalions serving in India. How this distribution is to be effected is not so far made apparent, but the arrangement itself seems quite in opposition to the territorial system even, and only applicable to "general service" enlistments. However, if we get the pick of the Seaforths, Sutherland and Caithness men (they go home next trooping season), we shall have nothing to complain about; but the arrangement seems radically unfair to regiments in general, though no doubt quite in keeping with the many peculiarities that the present system has from time to time given rise to.

* * * * * *

To show the sympathy that those in authority have for the glorious old traditions that make the British Army what it is, and the envy of the world, the following is an instance: Soon after the linking of the Ninety-first (Argyllshire Highlanders) to us, and the formation of the regiment with its present designation and recruiting district, the officer then commanding at Stirling, in a memorial to the War Office, pointed out the desirability of having our old recruiting grounds, Sutherland and Caithness (which had been given to the Seaforth Highlanders), in addition to Argyllshire, as otherwise there was an anomaly in the title "Argyll and *Sutherland*." The then Duke of Sutherland highly approved of this, and he gave a bounty to all men of his county enlisting in the regiment, whilst the Seaforth Highlanders, who had previously recruited largely from around Stirling, were quite willing to exchange the northern counties for a district in which they were well known. The answer from Horse Guards was characteristic, and to the effect that *if it was desired to drop the second title of the regiment, "Sutherland," a memorial to that effect should be made.*

Shade of Balaclava and Lucknow!

* * * * * *

Nowshera is at present cholera bound; at least all places outside the cantonments are out of bounds owing to several suspicious cases having broken out in the surrounding villages.

* * * * *

Another monsoon shower visited Nowshera on the 16th ultimo. Wednesday night had appeared threatening, and early on Thursday morning the downpour commenced, continuing without intermission for nearly five hours. This time the effect of the rain reduced the temperature to 78°, and the ranfall must have registered many inches; unfortunately, after the storm had cleared the sun came out brightly, and "prickly-heat," that had for a few hours almost been forgotten, returned with tenfold vigour.

* * * * * *

Captain McNeill has returned from the School of Musketry, Changla Galli, with an Officer's Extra Certificate.

* * * * * *

A few more invalids proceeded to Chirat on the night of the 16th ultimo.

* * * * * *

Lieutenants J. Campbell and R. B. Graham have both returned from three months' leave in Rampur and Kashmir. We hope they will have something interesting to contribute at an early date.

* * * * * *

Lieutenants J. F. Richardson and A. H. Maclean are both away home on leave for a few months.

* * * * * *

A few alterations in dress and equipment have lately been sanctioned at home, but will make little difference in this country with khaki in such constant wear.

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Officers will only wear the sash with the tunic, and sergeants will only wear it in review order, on orderly duty, and when "walking out." Gloves will only be worn by sergeants in review order, or when walking out.

* * * * * *

In the examination for officers held at home during May last, Captain A. F. Mackenzie and Lieutenant D. Darroch passed in Subjects (*c*), (*d*) and (*g*) for promotion.

* * * * * *

Another new pattern infantry valise equipment is being tested at home, this time by the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards.

* * * * * *

Captain W. Stewart, late Adjutant of the 1st Dumbarton R. V., will join us during the next trooping season, probably bringing the next draft out from home. Captain Stewart joined the 1st Battalion in 1886, having previously served in the West India Regiment and in the ill-fated Twenty-fourth. He is a piper of some note, having won a gold medal in Edinburgh in 1891 in a competition for gentleman pipers. Captain McNeill also competed then.

* * * * * *

A sum of 20,800*l.* was taken this year during the run of the Royal Military Tournanent at the Agricultural Hall.

* * * * * *

A general re-armament of the Volunteer Infantry with the Lee-Metford rifle is anticipated at the close of the current volunteer year. Chitralis and Bajauris please note.

* * * * * *

Several non-commissioned officers and men, including most of the band, are at present away on furlough and with only a few musicians left playing out becomes anything but a sinecure. The band still plays at mess and at the weekly concerts, but no longer at the coffee shop and hospital.

* * * * * *

There was a slight shock of earthquake on the morning of the 21st ultimo, the quake being almost imperceptible, unless within a bungalow. The shock was only of very short duration.

A dozen men rejoined head-quarters from Chirat on the 17th ultimo, and a few more also joined on the 21st. They found their journey down anything but pleasant.

* * * * * *

An esteemed comic contemporary most naively informs its readers that the expression "Led by the nose" originated from the fact that in India elephants (*sic*), to save the expense of many mahouts, are fastened together in file, the nose of one elephant to the tail of another. We dread the consequence of any economically inclined elephant proprietor seeing this and trying the experiment. Really it is too bad of you *Tit-Bits*.

* * * * * *

Three of our 1st Battalion have secured places in the army sixty—Colour-Sergeants Boyd Hutton and Macpherson.

* * * * * *

In the last number of a regimental contemporary hailing from Devonport way, the Editor, we notice, complains of the little support he receives: only two companies purchasing as many as 50 papers a month, and others taking considerably less. We do not flatter ourselves that the *Thin Red Line* receives all the support it deserves, but by comparison will not complain, as our best company, "D," is always good for over 80 copies even at the present time with its detachments in the hills, and several others run it close. The last drafts, however, seem to appreciate us more than the older soldiers, as among the Chirat detachment of 230 men, as many as 274 copies of the May number were sold. Apparently to improve his circulation our contemporary offers 10*l.* worth of prizes for musketry. Supposing we were to try a bait of a "fifty-six" of McEwan's (advertisment free) for the company selling, we'll say, 1,200 papers during the year," this should fetch it better than a shooting prize. "Glorious, glorious beer!"

* * * * *

Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh returned from leave in Japan on the 27th ultimo.

* * * * *

"G" Company have completed their annual musketry course (individual practices), Private

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Emmett being "company shot" with a score of 184. There are seven marksmen in all.

* * * * *

"A" Company have commenced their annual course, and are the only company now to be exercised.

* * * * *

We have to thank the Editor of *John o' Groat Journal* for publishing in his paper a paragraph from our April Number, indirectly inviting Sutherland and Caithness youngsters to join this, their old country regiment. Unfortunately only a very few copies of the *Thin Red Line* circulate north of Dornoch, but the *John o' Groat* is widespread in that district, and no doubt many would-be wearers of Her Majesty's uniform will read through its pages what we have said, and we hope, thus influenced, decide to wear the tartan of the House of Sutherland. With our depôt at Stirling, and ourselves in India, some difficulty is sure to be experienced by perspective recruits wishing to join us, but the advice we offer, although savouring of the style of the trade advertisement, is: ask for the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and see that you join no other.

* * * * * *

We have to correct a most grave error in our last paper. It was therein mentioned that Private Downey was "D" Company's best shot, whereas he is only third in order of merit. Sergeant Smith is the best shot and wears the "gold guns," Private Gordon (3373) next, and Private Downey third, though the best shot in the half Company with which he fired, this being the cause of our mistake.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant W. J. B. Tweedie has passed in subjects (*c*) and (*d*) for promotion to Captain.

* * * * * *

With the advent of the trooping season T. E. men will be considering how they are to send their surplus baggage home. Several firms in India arrange matters of this kind, among them being Messrs. McAfee and Gordon of Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay, who, for a moderate charge, undertake to send parcels or boxes of any shape or size by P. and O. mail boats direct to London.

Shooting in Burma.

—o—

THE editor of the regimental paper having called upon me to provide an article on a shooting tour in Burma, which is to be "taken from your diary, ready by the 15th, bright and not tedious," I hasten to comply, though with an inward fear that my contribution will be "tedious and not bright"; however, 'twere churlish to refuse, and I haven't got to read it myself, so here goes for the diary.

The 19th February sees me packed away in a boat with my boxes of stores, guns, &c., around me a discontented Madrassee servant who got into my service by saying he could talk Karen (he now says he can't, but explains that he is a "Christ-i-an boy, sar," which he apparently thinks will do just as well), and a peon who speaks four languages and gets drunk with scrupulous regularity every time we get back to civilization. Up the river for 16 miles, bullock carts for 13 more, and then elephants, and I get well away into the country. For the first ten days my trip is a record of hard, hard work with no return. Out in the morning before dawn and creeping through dense and noisy jungle. The ground dry and a lot of bamboo about. Back to camp sometimes at noon, sometimes in the afternoon, but no bag. We see tracks, but as a rule, the jungle is too dense to follow them up. One day on the march from one village to another. As I turn a corner of the telegraph road I am on, I see a dusky shrinking form strolling along about 40 yards from me—a panther, and a small one; how small his back view was, alas! I realised when I had fired, and missed. On the 4th March I am out with two men. Weapons an 8-bore and a 12-bore; about 9 o'clock, as we rise a small slope, the shikari in front stops and crouches. I crawl up to him, and there, about 120 yards off, under a tree, is a big *hsaing* or Burmese wild ox. I take the heavy rifle and begin to stalk, but I might as well advance on the animal with full band and pipers playing. Just in front of me and to the sides the ground is covered with broken bamboo. I shall have to take the long hot, far too distant for big rifles and game.

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The roar of the 8-bore is followed by the flight of the *hsaing*, but as we tear down the slope after him the shikari quickly finds blood on the leaves, and following up I get another hasty shot at him. He makes off again, and I am following: when I glance to the left, and there he stands about 10 yards off me. To my surprise and relief, however, he does not charge but thunders off and falls about 20 yards further on. He is a handsome bull, 15 hands high at the shoulder, a light chestnut colour, with a large white patch over the stern, white stockings, horns like a bison's only more delicate, and no hair on his frontlet. He also wants the hump of the bison. This particular head is a very fine one. I am surprised he did not charge, as these animals have a reputation for being wicked.

About four days later on we shift our camp to a village on the banks of good-sized river, where now and then I get some good-sized fish for a change of diet. On the opposite shore from here, and in the centre of a dense jungle, there is a large natural clearing, in the middle of which is a lake of hot water. Apparently wild beasts like being in hot water, for the marshy bits round the edge of it are simply covered with tracks of all sorts, from the huge round step of the elephant and the "pug" of the tiger down to the little track of the barking deer. A description of blank days in the jungle would be very dull, so I will pass on to the 16th March, when I was on the march to a place with a name easier left alone than spelt. About five in the afternoon we hear, not far off, a squeak—Elephants. Moving cautiously, the trackers stop, and passing on I see one elephant standing by itself about 30 yards off. This is a female, however, so drawing silently back we move round to some higher ground across a little nullah, on the opposite side of which are four elephants—two male and two female. Neither of the bulls are big, and I hesitate about shooting, but the wild eagerness of my shikaris (one of whom is making signs to me to shoot first at one bull and then at the other, while the other man is, as far I can see, saying prayers—I suppose praying I shall not miss) decides me, and I fire at the larger of the bulls. I fire at his ear as he is broadside on, and the shot leaves him moving round and round in a very staggery condition. I get another shot at the ear which brings him down, and I move across the nullah and give him a *coup-de-grâce*. Two days after this we are out one morning, when we hear a crashing in the jungle, here rather open, on our left. Slipping in we come upon two bears (*Ursus Malayensis*), high up a smooth stemmed tree, eating honey. One of them sees me as I come up, and climbing down makes off; the other one lets me get to within about 15 yards or so, when I shoot it with a couple of express bullets between the shoulders. We have a fine feast on the honey, to get which the bears have torn big holes in the hollow tree trunk. After this I see game now and then and am perpetually on the move, now marching, now on elephants and at other times in boats, but I get no addition to my bag till the 1st of next month, when, one morning early, we come on bison tracks. The ground is dry and fairly hard, but my shikari does a very good track. Once we get, as I think, hopelessly fogged, but he picks the true trail up again, and at last, on a slope about 150 yards off, I catch sight of a tail whisking in a clump of thinnish cane. Only a tail, nothing more, but I am satisfied, for I know there is a bison attached to it.

We work up to about 40 yards when I get a full sight of them—three bison, great big beasts, and looking at that distance very black. I get a shot at the shoulder of the biggest bull, and hit him a little too far back, and he makes off. We follow him, and he crosses a ravine and crashes up the opposite side.

We are looking for the tracks on the far side, when my shikari points to a clump of thin cane jungle. Just as I have got into the edge of this jungle I hear a crashing of twigs and *Bos gaurus* comes out. I give him my right barrel, and he stumbles to his knees, but is up and onward again like a shot. I fire my left barrel and run to one side, when my feet catch in a hidden log, and I go over backwards. I see the bison come down on his knees as I fall, and then hear my shikari fire my express rifle at the beast's head.

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I roll myself over when I touch the ground (and pretty quickly too), and then spring to my feet, snatch up my rifle and bolt for the nearest tree, to reload. By the time I have done this the bison is on his feet, but though he faces us nobly, that last effort exhausted his strength and I finish him. A very handsome bull, about 17 hands at the shoulder, with a huge hump and great breadth of body.

I think this may be said to be the last detail of my shoot worth mentioning, though there were days of tracking animals and various other incidents as we journeyed about the country. One more animal I get before I leave, though not noble game—a big crocodile which has, I am told, taken more than one human life. That, however, was possibly said to please me. One noticeable point to conclude,—neither Burman nor Karen ever asked me for *backshish*, nor when I had paid them, did they ever ask for more.

Cured.

—o—

HE was an old, parchment-faced native, and was brought by his friends to the station hospital to be prescribed for by the great doctor sahib. He was suffering from insomnia, and his friends solemnly declared that he had had no sleep for a fortnight, and was now nearly out of his mind. The kindly doctor at once took the case in hand, and for several days tried the effects of morphia, opium, sulphonal, and all the sleep-producing drugs known to science.

Alas! his efforts were of no avail.

No sleep came to the wretched sufferer, and it was evident that the end was fast approaching.

Calling the man's friends, the doctor gently told them that there was no chance of the patient's recovery. He then asked what trade the dying man had followed; and his friends replied that up to a month ago he had been a "punkah wallah."

A ray of hope illumined the speaking countenance of the medicine man.

"Take the patient outside into the verandah and put the punkah rope in his hand," he ordered.

This was done, and the sufferer began mechanically to pull.

Half an hour later, in accordance with the invariable custom of a long and ill-spent life, the "punkah wallah" was sleeping soundly.

W. J.

Another Football Tournament.

—o—

THE Murree Brewery Company having kindly offered a Challenge Shield, value Rs. 1,000, for an Association Football Tournament, to be annually competed for by Corps in the Punjab Command and a prize for the runners up Lieut.-General Sir William Lockhart has consented to a tournament taking place at Murree probably during the last week of September.

The rules will be similar to those of the Punjab Bengal Army Football Association. It is expected that at least twelve teams will enter.

A regimental team has been entered for this tournament, so that we shall have an opportunity of trying our strength against the Gordons. We hope with a different result to that at Umballa in February.

———: o :———

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it].

THAT it congratulates the Band upon their latest acquisition.

That the staging o' the open air gaffs is supported maist appropriately.

That the millennium arrived on the 12th.

That a punkah cooly is sometimes vera much awake.

That a man o' "E" Company ken's this.

That there hae bin a few promotions.

That someane is jist curryin' some the noo.

That there'll be "nae flees" in anither sax months.

That its better then than never.

That a certain company hae their ain interpretation of the new musketry regulations.

That is that the course may be fired wi' air guns in the verandah gin it is tae blawy tae gae to the range.

That a certain popular non-commissioned officer claims tae hae dune the longest mairch on record.

That it is a far cry frae Kandy tae Wynburg.

That shirt sleeves are gay comfortable for marchin'.

That the remnant o' the Band hae enouch tae dae jist noo.

That it hears o' a certain corporal wha lost his nut.

That the coffee shop is a guid place tae gae for sightin' shots.

That a certain company hae noo tae be kenned as "The Gunners."

That it's jist aboat time England stopped askin' the question.

That its cousin at Chirat says:—

That it wud like tae ken the chiel wha said he wud jist tak' a pint an' gang hame on a bottle.

That the pic-nic wis a'richt.

That it wis in sich a nice quiet place tae.

That the ither dhooly has been received a'richt.

That someane is maist anxious tae see a punkah swing.

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Chirat News.

—o—

By our own Correspondent.

AFFAIRS in Chirat during the month of July have been fairly quiet, the football tournament being the chief excitement. The sight that nightly met the eye would have made many a football enthusiast stare could he but have seen the crowds that gathered to witness each game. The whole garrison always seemed to be present; all round the touch lines the men crowded two and even three deep, and also upon the road which seemed to do duty as a grand-stand, while even on the rocks above men could be seen perched like birds eager to get a good view. The detachment team have been in excellent form having only been beaten once. And that the first match of this month, when they lost to "E" and "F" Companies of the Devon Regiment by one goal to *nil*. In the tournment ties they came out winners, getting a bye the first round; then they defeated our second team in the second round, this being the hardest game played.

In the semi-final they were tied to play "E" Company of the Devons, and after a stubborn game they pulled off a two to one victory. The final was played on the 27th July and again our team had a two to one win though their play was value for six goals at least, but the Devon's regimental goal-keeper was custodian for his company, and though ours kept shooting the ball in it always managed to come out again. However they managed to gain the first prize in the tournament, the prize being a money one of Rs. 55 which made Rs. 5 for each member of the team.

"F" Company, Devon Regiment, gained second place and a prize of Rs. 27-8-0. The prizes were presented by Lieutenant-Colonel Yule, Devon Regiment, after the conclusion of the final match on the football ground. The tournament lasted about a fortnight, and in all nine matches were played.

In addition to the first, the second team deserve more than a word or two of praise, for they very nearly knocked the first team out in the second round, the first team only managing to equalize about a minute before time; they were beaten, however, when extra time was played, but by nothing to be in any way ashamed of.

They hold a few good players too, Mossman as a half-back is exceedingly good and holds the speed, so does Clements, who, as a left-winger, will yet make his mark.

The following were the drawing for the tournament and the results :—

First Round.

Ninety-Third—(Second Team) beat "G" Company, Devons (3-1)
"F" Company Devons " "D" " The Buffs... (1-0)
"C" " The Buffs " "H" " Devons ... (2-1)
Ninety-Third—(First Team) a bye.
"B" Company Devons "
"E" " " "

Second Round.

Ninety-Third—(First Team) beat (Second Team,) ... ... (4-2)
"F" Company, Devons beat "B" Company Devons ... (2-0)
"E" " " " "C" " The Buffs ... (3-0)

Semi-Final.

Ninety-Third—(First Team) beat "E" Company, Devons ... (2-1)
"F" Company, Devons, a bye.

Final.

Ninety-Third—(First Team) beat "E" Company, Devons ... (2-1)
The Team representatives were :—

First Team.—Privates Carr, "H" (*Goal*), Gibson "C" and Gordon "E" (*Backs*), Mitchell, McLean and Martin "F" (*Half-Backs*), Pollock "D," Jamieson "A," Russell "A," Taylor and Cairns "E" (*Forwards*).

Second Team.—Privates Pell "C" (*Goal*), Kerr and Hendly "A" (*Backs*) Mossman, "B," Higgins "E" and Soutar "C" (*Half-backs*) Clements, "C," Henry "B," White, Babbington "F" and Forbes "G" (*Forwards*).

On Wednesday, 22nd July, the non-commissioned officers of the detachment entertained the married families of the regiment to a picnic, which was a great success. A substantial meal was served at 5 P.M., and after this there was dancing *al fresco*, the wind and dust making things unpleasant however. An adjournment was made to the shelter of some tents, where songs and recitations filled in the time until tea was announced. Just before this the wind had subsided and dancing had been recommenced, which was continued after tea, then followed songs again when the party dispersed to their homes having enjoyed a delightful outing.

There has been little else to note: there is no sickness of any account and the detachment may be considered in first class form, whilst the usual routine of drill parades and route marching is occasionally varied by field day. 2nd Lieutenant Cox has been temporally placed on the sick list, and Lieutenant F. G. Newall has just arrived from Nowshera to replace him.

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Sergeants' Tennis Tournament.

—o—

WITH the advent of the really hot weather and the departure of the fair sex to Chirat, the tennis courts in the sergeants' mess seemed to lose their attractiveness. To disperse this apparent *ennui* a tennis tournament was arranged and successfully carried out. Only ten of the most energetic players, however, could be prevailed upon to compete, but this was sufficient to form five doubles, and the ties were arranged. Assistant-Surgeon Wächsell and Sergeant Symcox, certainly the two best players, were curiously enough drawn together; but despite this powerful combination there were some really good games; especially in the first round between Sergeants Smith and Scott, and Stubbs and MacDonald, when the "favourites" lost.

The semi-final between Assistant-Surgeon Wächsell and Sergeant Symcox, and Sergeants J. Gunn and Durnan, was also well contested and at one time might almost have been anybody's game. As was only to be expected, however, the former pair proved themselves victorious, and also won the final comparatively easily.

The following are the results of each round:—

1st Round.

Assistant-Surgeon Wächsell and Sergeant Symcox beat Sergeant Dawson and Lance-Sergeant Stonor (6-1), (6-0).
Sergeants Smith and Scott beat Sergeant Stubbs and Lance-Sergeant MacDonald (6-5), (5-6), (6-2).

Semi-Final.

Assistant-Surgeon Wächsell and Sergeant Symcox beat Sergeant J. Gunn and Lance-Sergeant Durnan (3-6), (6-1), (6-4).

Final.

Assistant-Surgeon Wächsell and Sergeant Symcox beat Sergeants Smith and Scott (6-5), (6-0).

—:o:—

Open Air Concerts.

—o—

EVERY Wednesday evening of last month we were treated to open air concerts; the drums and pipes, as on the previous occasion, playing through the lines at the first post for the fall in. The band, in addition to the overture and to various selections, invariably supplied instrumental solos,—cornet, piccolo or euphonium—and have contributed, in no small degree, to the success of the entertainments, and great credit is due to Sergeant Peggie and them, especially with so few performers present at headquarters. Variety has been the order throughout, and Sergeant Symcox can certainly congratulate himself upon the assorted talent introduced to the boards. It would be almost insidious to particularise, and unfortunately, we have not room to publish the programmes in full; but several previously unknown performers have been unearthed, and the executive in such matters should have no difficulty in having excellent variety entertainments in the theatre next cold season. To mention one or two of the most popular performers may not, however, be out of place. As a sentimental singer, Private Granger perhaps may be considered the best of the new productions, whilst in the comic line Private Burgess has been immensely popular and invariably encored—"In the Army" and "The London Belles," being, perhaps, his best. As an Irish comedian Private McGregor has excelled, and "Fitzpatrick Maloney" is everywhere whistled.

We can only offer as a suggestion that the programmes have been too long.

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The Fate of McTavish

—o—

The prisoners' call—"To the orderly room."
Who does not know what it is to be there
Standing all in a row, awaiting your doom,
Trying to assume a sanctified air.

"McTavish!" the cry—"helmet off—right turn."
In goes McTavish, he's been there before.
"Halt—Front," the command, in voice sharp and stern.
The officer coughs, then reads the charge o'er.

"Number six thousand one hundred and eight,
Private McTavish, how comes it that you,
Who promised last time that you'd try and keep straight
Were drunk and using obscene language too?"

Lance-Corporal McBang was the first witness who
Was down to appear in this terrible case,
A man well known as a pure pariah too—
And a smile of content stole over his face.

"Sir, on the night of the twentieth I
Was on duty outside the canteen:
The pris'ner was drunk, and Sergeant McKay
Asked me if I his condition had seen."

Then Sergeant McKay came forward and said:
"On the twentieth, sir, I was in charge of the piquet,
The prisoner was drunk and fell on his head,
Shouting out words both naughty and wicked."

Sergeant McMuttray, the witness next called,
Deposed, when on guard, he was called from his bunk
On the night of the twentieth, when the prisoner was hauled
Into the guard-room—"The prisoner was drunk."

"What have you to say?"—from the officer next.
But McTavish seemed placed in a terrible fix;
He'd learned up a yarn, but forgotten the text.
"Ten days C. B., fined seven-and-six."

MAC.

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Camps of Exercise.

—o—

"WHAT do we learn at Camps of Exercise"? queries "The Man in the Sangar" writing to the *Pioneer*, and having asked this innocent question, he goes on as follows:—

At the manœuvres round Paris a year ago a story is told of a Colonel of dragoons, who with one squadron was surrounded by a brigade of infantry and who, when called on to surrender, energetically refused. "You are a prisoner, Colonel . ." shouted a General who led an army of umpires to the spot. "Prisoner? *Non, Général jamais i jamais de la vie* . . . we dragoons would rather let ourselves be killed to a man than surrender."

This bit of rot, says the *Figaro*, which cost the gallant Colonel fifteen days' simple arrest, was in reality the most sensible and just criticism which could possibly be applied to peace manœuvres. It is not sufficient to project a turning movement in order to ensure its being a success as theorists seem to imagine; it is necessary to reckon with the impetuosity of highly-trained and well-led troops, it is necessary to reckon with the obstinate courage of certain races; and if this were not so, war would simply be a game of chess.

How often have we also seen a gallant squadron commander careering about at the head of a dishevelled squadron and energetically refuse to surrender in the teeth of an awful fire? And as for the umpires, they gallop about and dispute lengthily about the positions of the opposing forces and end in giving a decision which never contents anyone. However, as we are told in Ecclesiastes, "in the multitude of councillors there is wisdom," but on the subject of umpires, words fail me now, *passons l'éponge et n'en parlons pas*; let us pass rather to the subject of Brigadiers and Commanding Officers. *Humanum est errare*, and if the result of these camps is to show them that they are mortal in this respect, the time and money are not entirely thrown away. A story reaches us from the manœuvres at Frensham: there was a night attack and a Brigadier on turning out of his tent found a battalion fallen in, in front and very silent. He instantly began to harangue them on their smartness in falling in so quick, and so forth, and ended up by asking what regiment it was. "Coldstream Guards" was the reply—the enemy! The Brigadier's joy may be imagined on learning he was a prisoner.

We remember an irate general officer at some manœuvres at home who, exasperated at the slowness of a movement called upon the different commanding officers and thus addressed them—"I hope, gentlemen, I am not keeping you up? . . . No? Well, then, supposing we get along with this manœuvre." At a cavalry camp in India the general haranguing all officers as we stood around with our maps: "Each regiment must take ten rounds a man," he said, concluding his address. "Blank, sir, I presume?" ventured mildly the Colonel of a dragoon regiment in the midst of an awful silence. Laughter at the back was instantly repressed. This is what Napier would have termed a felicitous example of intuitive genius in one who was rather shining than great. However, let us all remember the words of Marshal Turenne—"Speak to me of a man who has made no mistakes in war, and you speak of one who has seldom made war" and that success in war like charity in religion, covers a multitude of sins. We hear night operations and marches are to be a prominent feature in peace manœuvres, but let us not forget, in a moment of enthusiasm over the new drill book, the remark made by Napier on night marches—"Night marches are seldom happy; that from Lugo to Betanyos cost the army in stragglers more than double the number of men lost in all the preceding operations" (Moore's retreat to Corunna). This remark was brought home to me very forcibly in the night march to the Nile we made after the battle of Abu Klea, when I overheard a Tommy in my company call out in the dark in the finest "New Cut" accent, "Saturday night, I s'pose, crowd of people about! . . ." It *was*, in fact, a regular "Saturday night," and I verily believe fifty resolute men could have exterminated our column.

One more word on manœuvres: perhaps the best "manœuvre" made of late years was by a gallant field officer at El Teb when the square was broken by the Hadendowas. He was heard shouting loud above the din, "Stand fast the marines—this way for Portsmouth . ." and I have heard one authority say that *this* manœuvre saved that square; and these are the kind of manœuvres that answer best in emergencies I take it—at least the company officer will tell you so—and no one sees more of the show than he does.

Finally, the above remarks (if they mean anything at all) would show that if anything is more terrible than war, it is Camps-of-exercise "as she is practised."

—:o:—

The Good Old Times.

—o—

SOLDIERING in India in the days of the "Old John Company Bahadur" must seem to the present generation too idealistic to be true. No history telling of the quaint manners or old customs of the Indian Army has ever been written, but anecdotes of service in the olden days are numerous and amusing in this practical age.

There is a story told of how, many years ago, an infantry subaltern was sent to join one of the irregular cavalry regiments. Going on parade a morning or two after his arrival, and being necessarily quite ignorant of cavalry drill, he kept close to the major to whose squadron he had been posted, and resolved to ask him what he should do when the manœuvring began. Pre-

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sently an order was given, and the regiment got into motion, and the sub touched his hat to the major, and said, "Will you please tell me, sir, what I'm to do?" "If you'll excuse me," said the major with equal politeness, "and I'll be d——d if I know." Considerably taken aback by this answer, the subaltern said nothing, but found his place somehow, and on another order being given, he again asked for information, receiving the same identical answer. Not to be beaten, he tried once more on a fresh manœuvre beginning, and appealed to the major to know what he was to do. "If you'll excuse me," was once more the polite but unsatisfactory reply, "and I'll be d——d if I know." "And if you'll excuse me, sir," replied the sub, a little put out, "I'll be d——d if you seem to know anything." "I'll be d——d if I do," was the candid reply. Now this story, with its all too copious use of expletives, which may be regretted, but which cannot be omitted with due regard to truth, evidently took place some long time back, since such a dialogue would obviously be impossible in these enlightened days. Such things belong to the fast vanishing past, and are already pretty much matters of tradition, like the story of the sporting commanding officer, who, when manœuvring his battalion in column on parade, suddenly called out to one of his subalterns, "Mr. Jones you've lost your distance." "Bet you a gold mohur I haven't, sir," cheerily returned Mr. Jones from the head of his company. "Done with you," said the sporting C. O. "Battalion, halt, left wheel into line. You've won your bet, Mr. Jones. Battalion, quick march," and the parade went decorously on to the end. This dialogue must also date back a considerable time, and it would be a nice point for those curious in such matters to decide whether it was this same sporting C. O., or another of the same kidney, who used to conduct all his light infantry parades from the verandah of his bungalow, sitting in a long chair in his *pyjamas*, while a bugler by his side sounded the various calls, and *chota hazri* and a mild cheroot enabled him to give his clear and undivided attention to the skirmishing and advancing and retiring of his men. An officer of British cavalry, who was stationed in Cawnpore in 1820, has left on record the following laconic account of the first inspection of his regiment there:—

"The military duties of this stationwere not heavy," he wrote. "We were inspected by an old Indian general, who had spent fifty years of his life in the country, and, much to the amusement of the men, he came to the ground mounted on an elephant. And why not, when every officer used to keep his palanquin? More than one C. O. has been known to use that eminently comfortable conveyance to take him to parade, preferring it to the vagaries of a light-hearted and irresponsible charger."

Oh, why did we not join previous to the year eighteen hundred and ninety!

Black Bears.

—o—

THE Himalayan Black Bear (*ursus torquatus*) is of Indian bears the one with which we of the Punjab are best acquainted.

Few of our sporting subalterns (and their name is legion) can say they have not, at one time or other, been bitten with the desire of encompassing the death of a black bear or two. Later on, they aspire to more noble game, and leave the comparatively harmless old *bhalu* to the tender mercies of the "last joined." Still, when stationed in the hills, where sport of any kind is probably at a discount, bear shooting is by no means to be despised.

I now treat of the days, not far gone, when I myself was as keen as any. To begin with, let me recommend the young sportsman, old hands need not this warning, to take the inevitable yarns of his shikari with the proverbial *grano salis*. After my experience, I have no hesitation in saying that I do not believe a black bear is half as black as he is painted. This would appear to smack of the Irishman. To be more explicit, I do not think he will ever attack a man, which, according to your shikari, he delights in doing, save in exceptional circumstances. When cornered on the hillside, or disturbed with young, the most fastidious will not deny that the bear is amply justified in sticking up for what he considers his rights. Again, the so-called charge of a bear when fired at is frequently never intended as such. Is it not rather nothing more than a blind bid for safety, in what appears on the spur of the moment the most likely direction? or the sportsman has committed the unpardonable error of firing uphill, in which case, should the charge come home, he only meets with his deserts.

The fairly frequent cases of natives being mauled, may be often accounted for in some such way as this:—A villager espies Bruin enjoying his midday *siesta* in the Indian corn on which he has been regaling himself during the night. Hastening to the village, he returns with other kindred spirits, in the shape of every man, woman and child he can find, all armed with

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tom-toms, kerosine oil tins, or anything that will answer the purpose. This motley crew will quietly surround the field in which the bear lies all unconscious of what is approaching. And then commences such a din as would almost raise the dead. The object of this the authors scarce know themselves, for if they think they are thus going to make an end of the interloper, they soon find themselves grievously mistaken. The bear, almost terrified out of his wits by the infernal hubbub, endeavours to slip away unperceived. At every turn he is met by a bawling native, vigorously beating his or her loud sounding instrument. Then the inevitable happens. Maddened by the awful din, the intruder rushes straight before him. A native is in his way. With one downward sweep of the scythe-like claws the man is down, bleeding and, perhaps, disfigured for life, and the bear is free. Worse than this may befall: for sometimes the village shikari will bring into play an old superannuated fire-arm, loaded with little better than slugs, and then dire are the consequences. Such is the Himalayan Black Bear. I now propose to relate one of the most exciting adventures I myself have had with him.

For us soldiers the time at which I write is the dull season. The month is June, when all nature seems, as it were, at a standstill, to simmer and gasp under the burning sun and throbbingly await the bursting of the approaching monsoon. Still we of the hills have really not much cause for complaint. My regiment is quartered in a hill station some 7,000 feet above sea level. The days are oppressively hot, but the nights, greatest comfort of all, are comparatively cool; and when we feel inclined to bewail our lot, a glance at the sweltering plains, lying like a burnished silver sea almost at our feet, is sufficient to make us own that truly our lot is fallen in pleasanter places. So nothing being on, I consider myself justified in applying for, and obtaining, a few days leave. My shikari, Hira, an excellent lad, whose services I luckily succeeded in engaging on our first arrival in the station, has *khubber* of black bear, some of which he owns is very vague, in several places. Eventually I decide on pitching my camp down towards the river, some twelve miles from cantonments, where I am certain of some more or less good gooral shooting, with or without the chance of a shot at nobler game. So giving my servant charge of the few coolies carrying my small tent and cooking utensils, with instructions to make the best of their way there by the *pag-dandi* or native path, and get everything ready pending my arrival, Hira and I set off over the hillside. It is already afternoon before we make a start, so there is not much time to dally by the way. Nevertheless, I succeed in bagging a gooral with a very pretty shot, which puts me in high good humour. Arrived in camp I make an excellent meal off fresh venison, liver and kidneys, which is infinitely preferable to the leathery mutton, or tasteless *morghy*, my man has brought with him from the mess. Meanwhile, Hira has been making inquiries in the village, and, before I turn in, brings me the welcome information that two black bears were only that morning seen by some bait-wallas in the jungle above the river. Knowing the locality, he strongly recommends me to beat for them on the morrow. I accordingly decide on doing so, and authorise him to requisition the necessary number of coolies to be ready to start at daybreak. [*To be continued.*]

EXTRACT FROM LONDON GAZETTE," dated July 3, 1896.

Princess Louise's (Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.) Lieutenant A. Sutherland, Adjutant, to be Captain to complete establishment.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeants.—No. 300, Lance-Sergeant A. MacDonald, "B" Company, No. 3071, Lance-Sergeant R. Paton, "E" Company, and No. 3006, Lance-Sergeant J. Ewan, "F" Company.

To be Corporals.—No. 3185, Lance-Corporal W. Adams, "E" Company, No. 3346, Lance-Corporal J. Stewart, "C" Company, No. 3088, Lance-Corporal A. Kettles, "C" Company, and No. 3247, Lance-Corporal J. McKimm, "B" Company.

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Paid Establishment.

To be Lance-Sergeants.—No. 3037, Lance-Sergeant G. Arnott, "A" Company, No. 3236, Corporal A. Miller, "B" Company, and No. 3053, Lance-Sergeant W. Mathew, "A" Company.

To be Lance-Corporals.—No. 4143, Lance-Corporal J. Charters, "F" Company, No. 3808, Lance-Corporal J. Allison, "A" Company, No. 4632, Lance-Corporal J. Fitchett and No. 3688, Lance-Corporal T. Starling, "E" Company, No. 2133, Lance-Corporal W. Farely, "F" Company, and No. 4301, Lance-Corporal J. Gilbert, "H" Company.

Appointments.

To be Lance-Corporal.—No. 4295, Provisional Lance-Corporal A. E. Keeble, "H" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No 4019, Private T. Birkenshaw, "E" Company (while in charge of Musketry Stores) No. 3699, Private J. Grinham and No. 4761, Private A. Bowe, "H" Company, No. 4471, Private J. Brown, "C" Company and No. 4108, Private G. Blackmore, "E" Company (while employed on the Regimental Police).

Good Conduct Pay.

Granted 3*d.* per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 1407, Pte. J. Denholm.

Granted 2*d.* per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 3217, Pte. G. Robertson.

"C" Company.

No. 3666, Pte. J. Shepherd.

"D" Company.

No. 3631, Pte. J. McKenzie.

"E" Company.

No. 3723, Pte. R. Fraser.

"G" Company.

No. 3647, Pte. C. Bamfield
,, 3646, Lce.-Corpl. W. Short.
,, 3637, Pte. H. Ault.
,, 3634, ,, J. Marshall.
,, 3653, ,, J. Weir.
,, 3662, Lce.-Corpl. F. Harvey.

No. 3640, Pte. L. McCarthy.
,, 3645, ,, W. Shelton.
,, 3648, ,, J. Latchford.
,, 3651, ,, R. Irwin.
,, 3665, ,, A. Brotherstone.
,, 3648, ,, R. Webb.

"H" Company.

No. 3183, Pte. G. Shipman.
,, 3654, ,, H. West.

No. 3973, Pte. W. Sear,
,, 3658, Lce.-Corpl. Haskell.

Restored 2*d.* per diem:—

"H" Company.

No. 2455, Pte. W. Smith.

Granted 1*d.* per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 5225, Pte. W. Hastie.

"B" Company.

No. 5164, Pte. C. Lewington.

No. 3285, Pte. J. Duffin.

"D" Company.

No. 4547, Pte. J. White.

"F" Company.

No. 4815, Pte. M. McLean.

No. 4557, Pte. W. Patterson.
No. 4924, Pte. A. Gibson.

"G" Company.

No. 4992, Pte. G. Cunningham.

"H" Company.

No. 4754, Pte. W. Hawthorne.

Restored 1*d.* per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 4935, Pte. J. Lillie.

"E" Company.

No. 3453, Pte. A. McLean.

"F" Company.

No. 3779, Pte. S. McCaw.

"G" Company.

No. 3019, Pte. J. Smith.

Employment.

To be School Assistant at Christ.—No. 3937, Private J. Patterson, "G" Company.

To be Station Butcher.—No. 3814, Private T. R. Baillie, "A" Company.

Extensions of Service.

To complete twelve years with the Colours.—No. 3995, Private T. Little, "D" Company.

Transfers.

From Royal Highlanders.—Private J. Stewart and posted to "C" Company.

To Highland Light Infantry.—No. 3913, Private A. Munn, "A" Company.

From "B" to "A" Company.—No. 3005, Sergeant A. McDonald.
From "E" to "H" Company.—No. 3071, ,, R. Paton.
From "F" to "C" Company.—No. 3006, ,, J. Ewan.
From "C" to "F" Company.—No. 3346, Corporal J. Stewart.
From "C" to "E" Company.—No. 3088, ,, A. Kettles.
From "F" to "D" Company.—No. 1772, Sergeant J. W. Green.

Educational Certificates.

Granted First Class Certificate.—No. 3692, Lance-Sergeant W. G. Stonor, "B" Company.

Passed Part II.—No. 713, Color-Sergeant A. McDonald, "D," Company.

Passed Part I.—No. 3531, Coporal F. Marks, "H" Company.

Nursing Certificates.

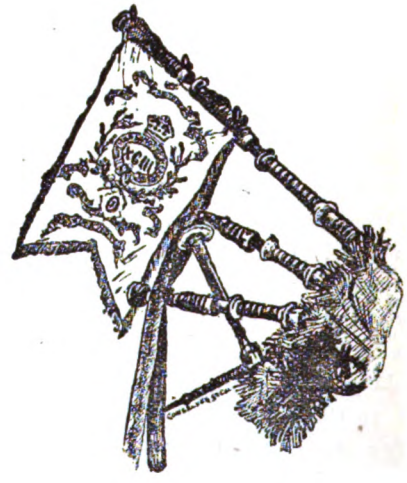
Granted Certificates of efficiency in nursing:—

No. 3610,	Corporal	G. Stobbie,	"G" Company.
,, 3885,	Lance-Corporal	E. Mahoney,	"C" ,,
,, 3943,	Private	A. Davey,	"A" ,,
,, 4160,	,,	J. Young,	"A" ,,
,, 4417,	,,	J. Brown,	"C" ,,
,, 4989,	,,	G. Kerr,	"C" ,,
,, 5099,	,,	A. Forrest,	"E" ,,
,, 4166,	,,	W. Munsell,	"D" ,,
,, 3557,	,,	F. Hiscock,	"F" ,,
,, 3863,	,,	C. McWhirter,	"F" ,,
,, 4907,	,,	J. Cosgrove,	"G" ,,
,, 3999,	,,	R. Gordon,	"G" ,,
,, 4240,	,,	J. Isdale,	"G" ,,
,, 3484,	,,	T. McGowan,	"H" ,,
,, 4244,	,,	J. Cathcart,	"H" ,,
,, 3661,	,,	A. Simmons,	"H" ,,
,, 4876,	,,	W. Malcolm,	"H" ,,

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We have to acknowledge with many thanks subscriptions for one year from the following:—

Major J. S. Napier.
Captain A. H. Middleton, Milngarvie (2 Subscriptions).
Rev. G. M. Roche, Presbyterian Chaplain.
Corporal Inglis, "H" Company.



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Sept 1896.

6/
No 3

The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 6—Vol. III. NOWSHERA,—SEPTEMBER 1896. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

ORDERS having been received that the "Individual Attack Practice" was not to be performed, "A" Company, on completion of the "Individual Practices" in Table B, also performed the Sectional Practices therein laid down.

All men present at head-quarters have now been exercised in the whole of Table B.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant W. D. Villiers-Stuart, who served his probation for the Staff Corps with us, has been transferred from the 20th Punjab Infantry to 1-5th Gurkhas as Officiating Wing Officer.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant Campbell has passed in Lower Standard Pushtu and in Lower Standard Persian.

The weather (always a seasonable topic) is getting cool. During the day it is still warm, but the early mornings and nights are appreciated.

* * * * *

Colonel Fetherstonhaugh returned from leave on 28th July.

Major Napier and Captain and Adjutant Sutherland, who proceeded to Kashmir, left on 3rd August.

* * * * * *

We regret that it has been found necessary to send Lieutenant Marshall and 2nd Lieutenant MacLean on leave to England on medical certificate; the former for 12 months, and the latter for 6 months.

We trust that the bracing air of "*oor ain countrie*" will soon restore them to good health.

* * * * * *

The detachment at Cherat does not appear to want for amusements. Football seems to be the principal of course.

* * * * * *

The non-commissioned officers have had two concerts; the programme of one is given on another page.

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A small party of convalescents proceed to Cherat on 12th August, but no men were sent down in their place, as is usual.

* * * * * *

The Open-air Concerts have been continued fortnightly, and some good talent has been forthcoming.

* * * * * *

Bounties of Rs. 170 and Rs. 85 have been offered to 70 Privates of the Battalion, who will extend their period of army service for two years and 1 year, respectively. About half the required number have offered themselves. We hope that the whole number will be forthcoming before the end of the trooping season.

* * * * * *

About one hundred non-commissioned officers and men (representatives from nearly all the Native Regiments on the frontier) are at present being initiated into the mysteries of dotting and dashing by our Regimental Signalling Staff. Unfortunately, just at the present time, this department is very short-handed, and only Sergeant Smith and Corporal Rastall, of the qualified Assistant Instructors, are available; the services of the Regimental Signallers have, however, been requisitioned to remedy this deficiency, and every morning and evening the *maidan* in front of the quarter-guard is fringed with blue and white flags, which are violently waved by the energetic sepoy.

Thirteen regiments and batteries have representatives under instruction, the Cavalry represented being the Queen's Own Corps of Guides from Mardan, the 1st Punjab Cavalry from Bannu, the 3rd Punjab from Kohat, and the 11th Bengal Lancers from here. The 2nd Derajat Mountain Battery and the Punjab Garrison Battery represent the Artillery, whilst the Infantry comprise the Guides from Mardan, 1st Sikhs from Bannu, 2nd Punjab from Edwardesabad, 4th Sikhs from Kohat, 6th Punjab from Bannu, 22nd Punjab from Kohat, and our neighbours the 38th Dogras.

Captain McNeill has been appointed Brigade Instructor, and he and Sergeant Smith have their hands full.

It is again our painful duty to take another London paper to task for cruelly deceiving its readers. A late copy of *Answers* stated that only *ten* regiments in the service had papers of their own, when we know of over forty at least. The error would have been less glaring had the *Thin Red Line* been enumerated among the papers named, but this was not done; and, for the better information of the Editor, we intend sending him our latest copy and hope he will rectify the unpardonable injury he has done us. Really not to have heard of the "Thin Yin"—!!!

* * * * * *

This year's musketry will soon be a thing of the past, as the last company has been exercised in all Practices of Table "B," and the remaining companies will soon have completed the Sectional Practices. Private J. Mitchell, last year's "battalion shot," wears "A" Company's "gold guns" with a score of 180, but is closely pressed, and there are seventeen marksmen all told in the company. The figure of merit is a good one of 126.

* * * * * *

From a Dumfries paper are taken the following:—

STRANGE EXPERIENCE OF A MAXWELLTOWN MAN.—Sergeant Robert Green, residing at No. 1, Howgate Street, Maxwelltown, has just had an experience which, though painful, presents a picture that is seldom, if ever, met with outside the realms of fiction. He was through the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny in the gallant 93rd, and in one of the many engagements in which he took part—Bareilly – he received a slight bullet wound, which seemed a mere scratch, on the right forearm. The wound did not cause him the least inconvenience until five or six years ago, when symptoms appeared that the injury was going to give some trouble. Notwithstanding this, he continued at his work—he is a gardener at Albany House—until three weeks ago, when, acting on the advice of his friends, he went to the Edinburgh Infirmary. There it was found necessary to amputate the arm, and thus after a lapse of thirty-eight years—for Bareilly was fought in 1858—he is left with a sad legacy of the Indian Mutiny. Mr. Green, who retired in 1875, is naturally proud of his four medals,—Crimea (three clasps), Turkey, India (two clasps), and the Queen's long service and good conduct, with £15,—and he recounts with evident relish his personal reminiscences

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of about forty years ago. It is satisfactory to know that he expects to be able to resume his work in a day or two.

* * * * * *

We are glad to hear that the gallant old veteran will not be seriously disabled by the loss of his arm, and sincerely hope that he may yet have many years to wear his hard-earned medals and enjoy his pension. His name is perpetuated in the regiment, as he has a son in "A" Company, at present serving in the band.

* * * * * *

At the Army Rifle Meeting at Aldershot a team of the first battalion succeeded in winning the Bengough Cup.

* * * * * *

G. O. C. C. of 16th July 1896 contains the result of the inspection of Signallers in India during last year. It appears that, although our Signallers figure of merit is three points better than the previous inspection, they are three places further from the top of the roll. There is thus no falling-off in their efficiency, but a great improvement in other quarters, and the result, considering the sickness among them at the time of the inspection, must be considered satisfactory. They must have far better luck next time, for they have certainly been handicapped during the last two years.

* * * * * *

A rumour seems to be generally current—having no doubt originated in the canteen—that the battalion is to go to Rawalpindi during the cold season to take part in the manœuvres to be held there. As there are to be no manœuvres in the Punjab during next winter, however, and as it is very unlikely that a regiment would leave Nowshera—a frontier station—to go to them, the probability of going to Rawalpindi is rather remote, though no doubt the Divisional Field-firing will take place at Peshawar as last year, and the battalion go there for ten days or a fortnight.

* * * * * *

Under instructions received from Punjab Head-quarters, the British Musketry Regulations, 1896, are taken into use. Musketry Prize Statements have in consequence been published.

Lieutenant J. Johnston-Stewart has passed the Lower Standard Examination in Pashtu.

* * * * * *

Lance-Corporal H. Williams, "B" Company, has gone to Naini Tal for duty as Staff Sergeant Instructor in the Bengal Gymnasia.

* * * * * *

It is with great regret that we chronicle the death of Surgeon-Major Saunders, who has been Senior Medical Officer here since the arrival of the battalion in November last. Surgeon-Major Saunders died at Murree from cancer.

———— : o : ————

Johnnie frae "Blighty."

— o —

WHEN Johnnie comes frae *Blighty* you can see it in his face,
For its jist as lang's an elder's whan he's gaun tae say a grace;
He lies spare upon his *charpoy* an' he never says a word,
Thats a specimen o' a' Johnnie whan he joins the Ninety-Third.

Whan first he comes frae *Blighty* he goes deid upon the tack,
Tae preserve his constitution an' his chances o' gaun back;
Tam pinted whispers in his lug' wi' yer pint yer better faur,
An' he's knocked aboot like ninepence till, "He dunno where 'e are."

The cook is shair tae feed him up just like a feehtin-cock,
Tak's his pice an' gies him pison till he lands him intae dock;
He tak's tae scoffin' buns an' cakes and bags o' ginger beer,
An' winners whit the dence is wrang wi' a' his inside gear.

Whan he settles doon in India he writes poetry for his life,
Yerds o' sentemental tack aboot a sodger an' his wife.
An' a' aboot a maiden fair weepin' in a flow'ry lane,
An' a' aboot a sodger lad she'll never see again.

Whan din greetin' for his lassie he starts tae learn the *bat*,
An' the Regimental Munshi on his siller waxes fat;
He can speak it like a native in aboot a week or so,
An' the wey he chucks it aff his chest 's good 's a wild beast show.

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Tae the sweeper he cries, "*idderowh!*" an' tells him for
tae "*jowh*,"
He "*bollos*" on the "*copperah wallah*" *aik* bottle lemon
"*lowh*;"
He wis an' awfu' Johnnie whan he jin'd us in Mean
Meer,
But he's changing for the better, for noo he tak's the
beer.

An' a' believe he'll dae his duty whaurever he may
go,
An' fecht like auld *char* badges wi' his face turned tae
the foe;
A've nae ill will against him since noo he's brake the
tack,
An' a' hope he'll be a Sairgint whan he's time-ex' an' gaes
back.

L. FERGUSON.

—:o:—

Black Bears.

—o—

(Continued from our last issue.)

Next morning the non-appearance of some of the beaters is the cause of no little delay; but my shikari at last has them all gathered together, and we set off. The lambardar, or headman of the village, who accompanies us, is as keen to encompass the death of the bears as I am, for he knows, from experience, they are at times by no means loath, to help themselves to one of his strayed *bails* and later on will work sad havoc in his Indian corn. I accordingly place him at the head of the assemblage, and in a short harangue, in which is the usual promise of *backsheesh* should success crown their efforts, I exhort them to do whatever he directs and be careful to keep a good line. The first beat is to take place in the jungle covering the face of the cliff, which rises for several hundred feet straight up from the river's edge, and in a direction up-stream to its course. When the lambardar has grasped this, we separate, I to take up my position with Hira, and he to line out the coolies preparatory to the beat. The place we select for my stand is on a jagged abutment of rock which runs from top to bottom. Hira asserts, wrongly as it turns out, that the bears, if here, will break out upwards, and so places me near the summit. At the expiration of the time agreed upon, the beat commences. Down by the river, a *kakur*, or barking deer, heralds its approach with short sharp bark, which rings out at regular intervals. Presently a *gooral* comes tripping along, and, listenings, poises gracefully on a pinnacle of rock. But we are intent on larger game, and they remain unmolested. Now we can distinctly hear the shouts of the coolies, and later they appear dotted about in anything but unimpeachable line. Still no sign of the bears, and I begin to think they have eluded us, when of a sudden we notice the coolies start to nimbly climb for their lives up the trees, and, when there, commence to shout vociferously and point towards the jungle below. Something now is surely on foot, so looking to the loading of my rifle I anxiously await the result. Nothing appears; and after assuring themselves that nothing of danger is in their immediate vicinity, the coolies are constrained to descend and continue their advance. Suddenly Hira catches sight of something moving down by the river, where, after a few moments of doubt, we distinctly make out the burly form of a bear leisurely making his way along the river bank. But he is far down below, and has evidently no intention of turning up over the cliff where we await him.

If he continues in this direction I see the shot will be far too long to risk; so hurriedly deciding that our only chance is to cut him off, I hand the rifle to Hira, who is as agile as a cat, and we start scrambling down, at the top of our speed. The climbing is slow work owing to the nature of the ground, but in the descent of the rocks we are much aided by the bushes growing about. So we lower, scramble and climb with all our might, only once stopping to look down, when, to my consternation, I see the bear has rather gained on us than otherwise, and will shortly arrive in the dense jungle to our rear. So off we set again with redoubled energy. Another look reveals the bear straight below, motionless and within easy shot, but just about to disappear under the overhanging rocks on which we have arrived. It is a nasty place to fire from, and I am terribly blown, but it is my only chance: so seizing and cocking the rifle, Hira grips me firmly by the legs, I lean over and fire. Simultaneously with my shot an angry double grunt, and a heavy plunge forward out of sight,

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tell me I have not missed, but probably hit too far back. A second time I see the bear, and have just time to fire the other barrel, when he rolls into a nullah and is lost to view. "*Laga, laga!*" (hit) exclaims my shikari, while excited shouts burst from the coolies, who, from their regained positions in the trees, can see more than we. *Pani* is the only word I can catch, but Hira, listening a moment, solves the mystery—the bear has fallen into the river. Eagerly scanning the turbid flood, we can make out nothing which could be mistaken for the beast. Presently, far away down stream, there slowly emerges a shining black object. It is the bear, struck by both bullets, which had fallen into the river, but still retained enough vitality to reach the bank. Through the field-glasses I see him painfully make his way back whence he came and approach the line of beaters. Hira and I shout lustily to them to turn him, to break and throw down branches: anything to turn him. But glued to their lofty perches with fright, and apparently imagining that, should they raise a finger to stay his course, he will ascend the trees and mercilessly drag them down, they emit no sound. The poor beast, unmolested, drags his weary way below, and for the present is free.

There is no occasion to hurry now, for given time he may perhaps lie down, in which case we shall find him again. So I occupy myself in swearing inwardly and heartily at my ill luck. But this will not bring us success, so we laboriously climb the rocks down which we had descended at so break-neck a pace. By this time the sun is high in the heavens, and the heat in the valley, which is a typical sun-trap, is very oppressive. Heavy sinister clouds—harbingers of rain—are banked up to the south and west. Indeed a downpour before night appears imminent. Fully an hour elapses before Hira and I hit off the trail. The ground is parched and dry, the jungle dense, and the "wait-a-bit" thorns more than usually aggressive. The bear's tracks have long since dried, and everything tends to make our tracking hopeless. We find but little blood, for its flow has been stayed by the sudden immersion in cold water. Again and again Hira is at fault, so giving it up we make straight for some rock caves for which the bear has been heading, and where we hope to find him now. A careful inspection of these proving abortive, we have to own ourselves beaten, and so desist for the present. Selecting a secluded and shady spot I stretch myself at full length in the welcome shade, and proceed to wile away the time till the arrival of the tiffen-coolie with luke-warm soda-water and such luxuries as my man has sent out from camp. At two o'clock, the time arranged for our start, the sun, much to my relief, is shrouded in dense black clouds. The wind begins to sigh fretfully, and everything points to a storm before night. We decide on beating the strip of jungle, into which the bear would seem to have disappeared, in the direction he was heading when last seen. Hira and I depart accordingly, while the lambardar attends to the placing of the coolies. This time we select a more central spot, where the jungle is abruptly divided by a high banked water-course running into the main stream, and seat ourselves on a ledge above the bank facing the beat, with full sixty feet of almost perpendicular rock between us and the water-course at our feet. The opposite side is not so steep, and should a bear come forward I should be able to shoot either while he is descending it or crossing the nullah below. Thence, if he still lives, he should pass either to the right or left of our apparently impregnable position. Farther up on both sides are landslips caused by the rains of a former period, and over these the wind, now risen to almost hurricane force, comes sweeping and swirting, raising dense clouds of dust and hurling it madly down past us. In fact, we have a duststorm in miniature to ourselves, which raises so great a din and becomes so painful that we are unable to hear the approach of the beat or open our eyes for more than a few seconds at a time. Presently, on looking up, I catch sight of a bear climbing down the opposite face, but before I have time to fire he has jumped into the nullah below and disappeared from sight. Peering

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down to right and left, several seconds elapse, and still no sign of his reappearance. So telling Hira to wait where he is, and watch the pass to the left, I leave him and run a few yards to look down to the right. Hardly have I done so, when two paws and a massive head appear over the ledge, and in less time than it takes to tell, the bear, an unwounded one I see in a moment, is up between us and coming straight for me.

[*To be continued.*]

———:o:———

We have received the following very interesting information from Captain A. H. Middleton late of this battalion.

With the exception of our Quartermaster there are none of those enumerated below now serving with the battalion, although a few are still serving on the permanent staff of the Militia and Volunteers:—

"A" Company in Glasgow, 1884 (June).

Captain A. H. Middleton.

Lieutenant A. B. Blackburn.

Lieutenant A. F. Mackenzie.

On looking over my old company book, I find that the above named officers and non-commissioned officers were leading old "A" Company, or what was, when I joined, called "The Blind Troop," some old Indian joke, I believe, of 1863.

Perusing the roll I find the nationality stood thus—

	Scotch	51	
	English	6	(3 of whom where bandsmen).
	Irish	4	(1 bandsman).
Religion.—	Presbyterian	50	
	Church of England ...	6	
	Roman Catholic ...	5=61.	
District.—	Territorial	13	
	Others	47	
	Born in Regiment ...	1	

The following were the different counties the non-commissioned officers and men (including two boys) came from, *viz.*:—

Aberdeen 8, Banff 3, Bute 1, Clackmannan 1, Dumbarton 1, Forfar 1, Fife 2, Inverness 1, Kincardine 1, Lanark 8, Linlithgow 2, Midlothian 2, Peebles 2, Perth 3, Ross 1, Renfrew 1, Roxburgh 2, Stirling 7, born in regiment 1 (Piper W. Robb).

51 Scotchmen, 6 English, 4 Irish.

The average height of the 59 men was 5 feet $6\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

The three tallest men were—

No. 771, Drum-Major James Duff;
„ 5, Sergeant John Wallace;
„ 646, Private James Logan;
} all 5 ft. 11 ins.

Nationality of the Officers:—

Scotsmen 3, average height 5 feet 10 inches.

The non-commissioned officers were:—

No. 580, Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry Alexander Beattie (now Quartermaster).

„ 771, Drum-Major James Duff.
„ 303, Sergeant James McKenzie.
„ 39, „ George Dey.
„ 5, „ John Wallace.
„ 187, Lance-Sergeant Samuel Croft (band).
„ 456, „ „ John McCabe.
„ 203, Corporal John Baldwin (band).
„ 189, „ Thomas Brodie (now Pension Sergt.)
„ 3023, „ George Hamilton.
„ 844, Lance-Corporal Robert Melrose.
„ 1201, „ „ John Kelly.
„ 1233, „ „ Alexander Lochead.
„ 1427, „ „ John Cunningham.
„ 233, Piper William Robb.
„ 1166, Acting Piper Donald McRae.

The "Blind Troop" have several times been the best shooting company of the Regiment, thus rather giving that joke away.

With reference to our former remarks on men leaving the Colors, we have received the following from Captain Middleton:—

"I would like to endorse Captain Forbes' remarks as to the Army Reserve men. Strikes are on again,—shipbuilding this time,—aided and abetted by agitators who call themselves the men's friends. Never a falser name was given. Mining, thanks to the late strike, headed by the same sort of gentry, is also in a bad way. My advice to time-expired men is to re-engage, and be a credit to their Queen, country and themselves."

We would like to add our persuasion to [illegible] down, of Captain Middleton and Captain Forbes, that [illegible] will recommend men to think seriously of the st[illegible] rear. ments given, before finally deciding to leave the regiment.

Captain Middleton writes us as follows:—

Dear Sir,

I came across my old company roll yesterday and have taken the enclosed particulars from it which I hope will be interesting reading to the old regiment, and more particularly to my old company, who have all my good wishes.

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Jock writes anither letter tae his Mither.

—o—

MA DEAR MITHER,

SINCE last writin' you I hae undergone great trials and tribulations, and at yin time it was thocht that my next letter tae ye wad be frae ma company officer.

Aboot twa three weeks syne I wis awfu' dizzy an' ma heid was heavy like. As I could na thole it langer I wis cairted, aff tae hospital in a dhoolie, "a bit box-like affair wi' a bamboo pole rinnin' thro' it, cairried by niggers." I wis pit tae bed an' they gie'd me a fizzer, and I mind naething mair till I waikit wi' big lumps o' ice roun' ma heid an' twa bhisties (they're niggers that carry the water in leather pokes ye ken, mither) poorin' water on me as if I was a hoos on fire. Whan I came to I wis a bit dazed like. I thocht, mither, I wis in an excursion steamer an' the watter wis rushin' in, sae I startit tae scoom and struck oot landin' yin o' the orderlies in the breid basket. Av coorse, whan I wis a' richt, I apologised tae the man.

Weel, mither, for aboot a month they kept me in hospital, aye pittin wat sheets roon me, an' at nicht time I hed tae sleep atween wat sheets.

Howsomever, mither, "a's weel that ends weel," an' I'm thankfu' tae say I'm a' richt noo.

Frae your lovin' son JOCK.

—:o:—

Cherat News.

—o—

FAIRS here have as usual been very quiet is f[illegible]ring the past month. The general health [illegible] troops is good, and as the weather is getting much cooler we are having lots of visitors from Nowshera to get a brief spell of the bracing air and recruit their jaded energy which has no doubt become much impaired during the season in the hot sweltering air [illegible] labori[illegible]ins.

Recre[illegible]ion has as usual been mostly confined to football, although sometimes an occasional hockey or cricket match is played, but the latter continues to hold the sway, and is no doubt rendered additionally attractive by the presence of the Regimental Football Team.

The Devon Regiment and The Buffs have each held an open air concert during the month, several good songs, &c., being introduced; altogether both concerts have been a decided success, and we hope they may hold many more which will come up to the same high standard.

Lieutenant Newall has returned to Nowshera and 2nd Lieutenant Cox has resumed his duties again.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

Extended period of Army service to 12 years with the Colors:—

No. 3005, Sergeant A. Macdonald, "B" Company.
No. 3692, Lance-Sergeant W. G. Stonor, "B" Company.
No. 3022, Private W. Moat, "A" Company.

Re-engaged to complete 21 years:—

No. 1772, Sergeant J. W. Green, "D" Company.
No. 2827, Sergeant J. Stewart, "B" Company.
No. 2133, L. C. W. Farley, "F" Company.

Re-engaged for Gordon Highlanders.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Lance-Sergeant G. Arnott promoted Sergeant.
Lance-Corpl. J. Murphy ,, Corporal.
To be acting Sergeant-Major.—Color-Sergeant McDonald.
To be paid Lance-Sergeant.—Corporal H. Clare, "D" Company.
To be paid Lance-Corporal.—Lance-Corporal J. Allinson, "C" Company.

To be Lance-Corporals.—

A. Grosvenor, "C" Company.	A. Mitchell, "C" Company.
H. Choularton, "G" ,,	W. J. Harris, "B" ,,
D. Davidson, "G" ,,	T. Currie, "G" ,,
T. Doyle, "G" ,,	

Lance-Corporal R. Spittal, "D" Company, has been granted a certificate qualifying him to act as Regimental Master Tailor.
No. 5840 has been allotted to Private J. Stewart, "C" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

The following men have been granted good conduct pay:—

At 1*d.* per diem.

No. 3328, Pte. D. Skae.	No. 4617, Pte. J. Mc William.
,, 4211, ,, B. Brown.	,, 4380, ,, T. Cameron.
,, 4636, ,, A. Denny.	,, 5200, ,, T. Thomson.
,, 4525, ,, R. Scott.	,, 5108, ,, R. McCallum.
,, 5219, ,, M. Sutherland.	,, 3937, ,, J. Patterson.

At 2*d.* per diem.

No. 3698, Pte. F. Trant.	No. 3691, Pte. H. Davie.
,, 3705, ,, F. Kitchener.	,, 3697, ,, H. Patterson.
,, 834, ,, A. McKay.	,, 3689, ,, C. McLeod.
,, 3686, L.-C. T. Starling.	,, 3708, ,, J. Davidson.
,, 3721, Pte. G. Donovan.	,, 3723, ,, W. Tring.
,, 3729, ,, H. Newland.	,, 3703, ,, W. Kenny.
,, 3718, ,, J. Bailey.	,, 3699, L.-C. A. Grinham.

At 4*d.* per diem.

No. 1680, Pte. C. Goldie.	No. 244, Lce.-Corpl. J. Lindsay.

RESTORED GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

At 1*d.* per diem.

No. 4501, Piper J. Mackenzie.	No. 3081, Pte. H. Boyce.
,, 4311, Pte. A. Wight.	,, 2802, ,, D. Milne.

TRANSFERS.

Sergt. W. D. Murdoch is transferred to supernumerary list having been three months extra-regimentally employed.

DEATHS.

No. 3522, Pte. F. Huckle, "H" Company, on the 10th August at Station Hospital, Nowshera—enteric fever.
No. 4348, Pte. J. Parker, "G" Company, on the 29th August, at Station Hospital, Nowshera.—enteric fever.

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Football Results.

—o—

	Goals.		Goals.
I. Regtl. Team	... 1	v. Dett. Team	... Nil.
II. Regtl. Team	... 5	„ Dett. Team	... Nil.
III. Regtl. Team	... 4	„ Buffs	1.
IV. N-C. O's. A. & S. H.	3	„ N. C. O's. Devon...	1.
V. N-C. O's. A. & S. H.	1	„ N. C. O's. Buffs	... Nil.

———: o :———

Programme of Concert at Cherat.

—o—

Song ...	I'm a Jolly Old Farmer ...	Sergt. DUNKELD.
Encore Song	The Flying Dutchman ...	„ „
Song	Knocked 'em in the old Kent Rd.,	Corpl. CAMPBELL.
Song ...	The Whistling Coon ...	„ LOCKIE.
Song ...	The Vital Spark ...	„ MATTHEW.
Song ...	The Muckle Sow	Lce.-Sergt. CLARKE.
Encore Song	I've been hob, nob, nobbing.	
Song	Just arrived from England ..	Sergt. STEWART.
Encore Song	The Drunken Piper.	
Song ...	Greenland's Icy Mountains	Sergt. GREEN.
Encore Song	Weeding the cucumber bed.	
Song ...	Jink, Jink, Jink ...	Sergt. SOUTAR.
Encore Song	Wratzs	
Recitation	How I took the Cake	Lce.-Sergt. ARNOTT.
Song ...	Kiss me, Good-bye ...	Sergt. PATON.
Encore Song	Quiff it like a soldier and a man.	
Song ...	We're a' noddin'	Corpl. WILLIAMSON.
Encore Song	Juist bide yer time.	

———: o :———

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it]

1. That the Regimental Team is makin' a brace up.
2. That some folk were near kilt on the last field day.
3. That some one is awa tae see a punkah swing.
4. That the dooly is nae longer required.

———: o :———

Answers to Correspondents.

—o—

IN THE PUNT.—You are right. He may only have said it to pacify you. Taking off your boots would naturally give you misgivings on this point. As the poet says, "Put not your faith in sergeants."

WOULD-BE BENEDICT.—Not a bad idea. You are almost certain to escape those irksome duties known as "Guards and Piquets." It might even run extra duty pay.

OLD CLO.'—You cannot dispose of your old tunic except with the permission of the Officer Commanding your Company. Your argument was recently discussed at some length in the Orderly Room, and the result was given in the Guard Report of 10th June 1896.

SEMPER IDEM.—Yours is an excellent idea though, we are afraid, not original. The dhobi *can* be made an excuse for any deficiencies of your kit at Kit Inspection. Square the Dhobi Corporal.

———: o :———

Editorial.

—o—

WE regret that a change in the Editorial staff has delayed the issue of the present number, but we hope, in future, to bring the paper out at the end of each month as heretofore.

We are very sorry to learn that Lieutenant Macdonald has been dangerously ill since his arrival at home. We trust, however, that he is by this time on the high road to good health.

———: o :———

Subscriptions.

—o—

Lieutenant Bell	... ...	one year.
Sergeant Duncan	... ...	„
„ Gunn (2 Subscriptions)	...	„
Colonel Cunningham	... ...	„
Mr. John Mackay	... ...	„

WE beg to acknowledge receipt of the following contemporaries :—

"The Vedette" (21st Hussars).
"The Dragon" (The Buffs).
"The Oakleaf" (Cheshire Regiment).
"The XXX" E. Lanc. Regiment).
"The Queen's Own Gazette" (Royal West Kent Regiment).
"The Tiger and Rose" (York and Lancaster Regiment).
"The 5 and 9" (East Lancashire Regiment).
"The Globe and Laurel" (Royal Marines).
"Quis Separabit" (7th Regiment Gazette, Royal Irish Rifles).
"The Aldershot News," Celtic Monthly.
"John O'Groat Journal," Rothesay Express.

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May 1894

The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 7.—Vol. III. NOWSHERA,—MAY 1897. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

WE very much regret that circumstances have delayed the issue of the paper since September last, but our managing editor has at last returned after seven months' absence, and it is hoped that in a few months more the *Thin Red Line* will have regained its pristine glory.

Of course after so long a delay there is much to be said and much that now cannot be written. Many things have occurred since the September Number was published—so many things in fact that it is impossible to chronicle anything but of the greatest importance. This number will conclude Volume III and with the June edition Volume IV will be commenced and everything will be up to date.

General's inspection, that *ultima thule* of our existence, has passed and again everything was as it should be, the following being from Battalion Orders:—

Remarks by the G. O. C. on the annual inspection of the battalion.

"I am very glad to see that the men are so fit and shall have much pleasure in reporting that the battalion is in excellent order, well trained, and fit for any work."

* * * * * *

In brigade field firing we covered ourselves with glory and the dummy targets with innumerable hits, having an almost phenomenal percentage and receiving the greatest praise from the brigadier. Turning from drill to athletics we succeeded in securing the Murree Football Challenge Cup last year, a very handsome trophy, but in the Bengal-Punjab Army Cup Tournament at Umballa were destined to be defeated in the semi-final tie; our polo team at Lucknow, too, did not meet with success, but then everyone cannot win and we have not the skill of the Durham Light Infantry; a rifle team sent to Meerut did fairly well there, and took away several individual prizes.

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Balaclava Day, 1896, was celebrated by the members of the Sergeants' Mess in most regal fashion, a grand ball and supper being held in the Mess Room on the anniversary of the thin red line of immortal memory.

* * * * * *

Colonel Trotter has presented the Sergeants' Mess with a most handsome addition to their picture gallery, being a collection of photos of Colonels of the battalion from 1864 up to 1894; the whole in an over-mantel frame bearing the inscription:—"From Colonel P. D. Trotter to the Sergeants, 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, Christmas 1896" and comprises the following of our late Colonels, with dates of their command:—

Colonel F. W. Traill Burroughs—10th August 1864 to 29th October 1873.

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Colonel P. D. Trotter—24th July 1890 to 24th July 1894.

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Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh has also added a most handsome addition to the mess property in the shape of a photographic album.

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New Years Day, 1897, passed off in the usual manner, each company dining after the parade. The commanding officer visited each company at dinner and wished the men a "Happy New Year"

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Sergeant A. MacDonald passed the course of instruction at Changla Galli last October and was appointed Sergeant Instructor of Musketry to the battalion.

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Captain F. M. Aitken joined the battalion with the first draft from home.

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Color-Sergeants L. Robertson, T. A. Swan and H. W. Bush, Sergeant F. Meston and Lance-Sergeant A. Watters have gone home on furlough for six months.

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Captain H. P. Moulton Barrett has gone to the depôt for duty.

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The annual Regimental games held during March last were, perhaps, a greater success than ever. It would be useless to particularise now, after so long an interval, except to mention that "H" Company secured the tug-of-war trophy, whilst the physical drill shield went to "D" Company. "B" Company secured most of the racing and jumping events.

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Lieutenant F. J. Richardson went home to the first battalion in October last on exchange and 2nd Lieutenant B. A. Harvey joined from home battalion.

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There is little to chronicle for last month. During the first week the weather commenced to give a foretaste of summer, but a sudden change occurred and for a week it rained almost continuously, the temperature falling to under 60° within doors. This premature monsoon, however, seems to have passed over and now all are looking anxiously forward for the advent of the punka—and white clothing for guard.

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With the first of April, in addition to fitting clothing, the year's musketry commenced, with the last draft from home and signallers as the first party of casuals. The firing was more satisfactory than is usually the case with young soldiers from home, who frequently are sent out here only half trained and sometimes not trained at all. Lance-Sergeant R. Miller, "B" Company, with a score of 192, was the best shot of the party.

* * * * * *

"A" and "B" Companies have also commenced their annual course, the latter with a surprising improvement upon last year's scores.

* * * * * *

On the morning of Wednesday, 14th ultimo, there was a night march and attacks on a position, the troops returning to barracks by 7 A.M., "A," "B," "D," and "H" Companies paraded at 1 A.M.

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under Major Campbell, taking up a position at the village of Baital Grib, south-east of the cantonment, the remaining companies and the 38th Dogras falling in at 2-30 A.M. as the attacking force. The attack was made at daybreak, and seen from commanding ground had a remarkably pretty effect, the attacking force being almost invisible except when they betrayed their dispositions by firing

* * * * * *

"C" Company are now on detachment duty at Fort Attock relieving "A" Company who returned to head-quarters on the 6th ultimo.

* * * * * *

Lulled into almost a false security it was a rude awakening when the "alert" sounded through the lines just after 3 o'clock on the morning of the 27th ultimo. The whole battalion was astir in almost the instant even to the extent of falling in on the parade ground; news spreads fast, and it was not long before it was known that eight rifles had been stolen from "A" Company, the thieves getting clear away. The Native troops in the station were somewhat tardy in taking up our bugler's call and although the Bengal Lancers scoured the country round for many hours afterwards it was without avail, and up to the present nothing has been heard of the missing arms. This loss caused all the arm-racks in the battalion to be tested and many of them were found to be unserviceable. This is a severe criticism upon the present means of securing arms in an open bungalow, and it is almost time that a better design of arm-rack was devised, and used especially when it is considered that nearly two years ago, designs for safety arm-racks were submitted from throughout India and several designs were then considered worthy of substantial prizes.

* * * * * *

The Regimental football team has been training assiduously lately for the forthcoming tournament to be held at Murree some time during next month, when it is to be hoped they may repeat their success of last year. With almost an entirely new team it is difficult to decide as to their capabilities, and last trooping season took at least six of the best players of the old eleven whose places it will be hard to fill. Four of the at present likely team, however, helped to win the Murree Cup last year, and as most of the team are young players they have, at any rate, time for improvement and trying again should they not succeed this first time. Still with the least element of luck they should give a good account of themselves, and football is somewhat a game of chance after all.

* * * * * *

The Officers and Sergeants have had two friendly encounters during the present month, both games being played under polo rules as regards time—ten minutes play and five minutes for refreshments. The first match resulted in a win for the Sergeants by two goals to *nil*, but in the return match the officers turned the tables by two goals to one.

* * * * * *

The Sergeants of the right and left half battalions have also decided their annual contest, victory resting with the right half.

* * * * * *

Cricket—owing perhaps to the leisure it affords for lubricating—appears to be the favourite pastime of the Corporals. The Corporals and Lance-Corporals have met on two successive Thursdays lately, on both occasions victory rested with the seniors.

* * * * * *

This year Colonel Trotter's cricket clock is again to be competed for, but as there is little time before the hot weather, the "cup tie" system instead of the "leagues" is to be adopted, the matches of the first round having to be played before the 1st instant.

* * * * * *

Again, as last year, the Cherat detachment will consist of about 250 men. By courtesy "B" and "H" Companies are supposed to be proceeding to the hills, but except for a few non-commissioned officers and invalids of these companies the detachment will consist of the last two drafts and the band, and the two companies concerned will be broken up and distributed between the remainder of the battalion during the hot weather. Hard lines on "B" and "H."

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On the morning of Wednesday, 14th ultimo, there was a night march and attacks on a position, the troops returning to barracks by 7 A.M., "A," "B," "D," and "H" Companies paraded at 1 A.M.

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under Major Campbell, taking up a position at the village of Baital Grib, south-east of the cantonment, the remaining companies and the 38th Dogras falling in at 2-30 A.M. as the attacking force. The attack was made at daybreak, and seen from commanding ground had a remarkably pretty effect, the attacking force being almost invisible except when they betrayed their dispositions by firing

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"C" Company are now on detachment duty at Fort Attock relieving "A" Company who returned to head-quarters on the 6th ultimo.

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Lulled into almost a false security it was a rude awakening when the "alert" sounded through the lines just after 3 o'clock on the morning of the 27th ultimo. The whole battalion was astir in almost the instant even to the extent of falling in on the parade ground; news spreads fast, and it was not long before it was known that eight rifles had been stolen from "A" Company, the thieves getting clear away. The Native troops in the station were somewhat tardy in taking up our bugler's call and although the Bengal Lancers scoured the country round for many hours afterwards it was without avail, and up to the present nothing has been heard of the missing arms. This loss caused all the arm-racks in the battalion to be tested and many of them were found to be unserviceable. This is a severe criticism upon the present means of securing arms in an open bungalow, and it is almost time that a better design of arm-rack was devised, and used especially when it is considered that nearly two years ago, designs for safety arm-racks were submitted from throughout India and several designs were then considered worthy of substantial prizes.

* * * * * *

The Regimental football team has been training assiduously lately for the forthcoming tournament to be held at Murree some time during next month, when it is to be hoped they may repeat their success of last year. With almost an entirely new team it is difficult to decide as to their capabilities, and last trooping season took at least six of the best players of the old eleven whose places it will be hard to fill. Four of the at present likely team, however, helped to win the Murree Cup last year, and as most of the team are young players they have, at any rate, time for improvement and trying again should they not succeed this first time. Still with the least element of luck they should give a good account of themselves, and football is somewhat a game of chance after all.

* * * * * *

The Officers and Sergeants have had two friendly encounters during the present month, both games being played under polo rules as regards time—ten minutes play and five minutes for refreshments. The first match resulted in a win for the Sergeants by two goals to *nil*, but in the return match the officers turned the tables by two goals to one.

* * * * * *

The Sergeants of the right and left half battalions have also decided their annual contest, victory resting with the right half.

* * * * * *

Cricket—owing perhaps to the leisure it affords for lubricating—appears to be the favourite pastime of the Corporals. The Corporals and Lance-Corporals have met on two successive Thursdays lately, on both occasions victory rested with the seniors.

* * * * * *

This year Colonel Trotter's cricket clock is again to be competed for, but as there is little time before the hot weather, the "cup tie" system instead of the "leagues" is to be adopted, the matches of the first round having to be played before the 1st instant.

* * * * * *

Again, as last year, the Cherat detachment will consist of about 250 men. By courtesy "B" and "H" Companies are supposed to be proceeding to the hills, but except for a few non-commissioned officers and invalids of these companies the detachment will consist of the last two drafts and the band, and the two companies concerned will be broken up and distributed between the remainder of the battalion during the hot weather. Hard lines on "B" and "H."

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The party will proceed to Cherat on or about the 13th instant.

* * * * * *

The best shot of the battalion for the Musketry year just concluded, 1896-97, is Sergeant W. Smith, "D" Company.

This is the first year that Sergeants have been allowed to compete for this honour, it having previously been restricted to two of the rank and file from each company.

* * * * * *

Apropos of Musketry, it may interest good shots and others to know that from this year marksmen will wear gold "crossed guns" and not the ordinary worsted badge; the best shot in a company will wear a star above his guns and the battalion shot a crown. Now, then, you crack shots left arms well forward. Don't bend the camera.

* * * * * *

A novelty, and a very successful one, in the shape of a Dog Show was held on Wednesday, 28th ultimo.

A large number of dogs of all breeds, it would perhaps be dangerous to say more, being merely a unit among 1,053 others, were exhibited and the whole battalion criticised whilst Lieutenant McCandlish and Sergeant Johnstone awarded the prizes. The originator of this excellent innovation was Major Napier who distributed the prizes and advised all owners of canine pets to get a good dog and exhibit at the next show. The band and pipes discoursed more or less sweet music during the afternoon.

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Schoolmaster H. C. Elliott has gone home to take over an appointment as Inspector of Army Schools, and has been succeeded by Schoolmaster W. V. Somers.

* * * * * *

Captain M. McNeill, Lieutenant R. B. Graham, 2nd Lieutenant R. J. P. Cox and Sergeant W. Scott have passed the Lower Standard in Pushtu.

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Sergeant W. Murdoch has passed in Punjabi.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant J. Johnston Stewart has been granted an Officer's "Extra Certificate of Musketry" from Changla Galli.

Lieutenant J. Campbell has passed the Higher Standard Examination in Pushtu.

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Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh is away on two months' leave to England and will be back again about the end of June.

This is Colonel Fetherstonhaugh's first leave home since leaving Aldershot in 1891.

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A grand tatto was held at Peshawar on the 21st ultimo. Our band, drums and pipes going there by train to take part in the display.

* * * * * *

The Sergeants, "The Buffs," entertained ours for two days at Peshawar last month, and treated them right royally during their stay. Our Sergeants' visit to their comrades at Peshawar was, of course, all in the interest of shooting and—er— sport, "What's your's?" Scotch, of course, "say when!" The first day's programme was a rifle match which, after intense excitement, ended in a draw, the Buffs disdaining to claim a win for the best score at the longest distance. Lunch was served on the range and the shooting was not phenomenal. After this there was football which resulted in a win for the Buffs, and a dance in the evening concluded the first day's programme. The following day was devoted to cricket and another capital lunch, the Buffs again being the winners; at tennis in the evening they again won, but at billiards Sergeants Clarke and Peggie carried all before them, and covered themselves with glory, though the after-effect upon their nerves appeared to be most disastrous.

A smoking concert concluded the day, and after much handshaking and many narrow escapes—"dangerous things you know those Peshawar tum-tums"—ours left for Nowshera by the midnight train, steaming out of the station to the strains of "Happy we been a' thegither" from the Pipe-Major's soul-stirring instrument.

* * * * * *

Lance-Sergeant Stonor has passed a course in Surveying, Drawing and Reconnaissance at Thomason College Roorkee, with great credit, standing 1st in class.

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Corporal R. Wilson, "F" Company, has passed a course of instruction qualifying him for appointment as Pioneer Sergeant.

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Lance-Corporal Mitchell, "F" Company, has been awarded a 1st class certificate for Gymnastics and Swordsmanship at Ambalia.

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Our first battalion are sending a company to Bute shortly for the purpose of recruiting in that island.

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It is proposed to form a regimental bicycle club shortly, and as there are already several machines in the battalion, there should be little difficulty in doing this.

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The Football Clock this year has been won by "F" Company.

* * * * * *

"A" Company have finished their annual course of Musketry for 1897 with an average of 116.

Sergeant A. MacDonald is the best shot in the Company having a score of 180 to his credit.

* * * * * *

It is whispered on good authority that the report on the annual inspection of our Signallers for 1896-97 is again most satisfactory, especially considering that for over four months so many of them were employed instructing men of Native corps, leaving only one month for practising work for the examination. A figure of merit of 482·42 should stand well for a place in the first "12" for the Army in India.

Hard work will have to be undertaken this year to work the establishment up again, so many signallers having joined the reserve during last trooping season, and it is almost a question where next year's team will come from.

Sergeant Pringle has again been selected as Assistant Instructor at the School of Army Signalling at Kasauli, another proof of the efficiency of the battalion in this department.

Black Bears.

(Continued).

—o—

ON spying me he gives an angry half grunt, half growl, and partially rises on his hind legs; but at sight of the raised rifle, pointing straight for his head, his courage fails him. Just as I am about to blow out his brains he turns tail and defrauds me of the shot, for should I fire now I am almost as likely to hit Hira as the bear. So watching my opportunity, I shout to Hira to spring aside, which, however, he has no time to do, and so endeavours to keep the bear at bay with the iron-shod khud-stick he luckily carries. Should they come to closer quarters, one or both must inevitably fall over and be dashed to pieces on the rocks below. The bear, on finding himself girt about with resolute men, savage though he is, has no stomach for the fight; so turning hence, he seeks shelter in the thick jungle immediately behind. The tension thus suddenly removed from our over-wrought nerves, we two, one or other of whom had undoubtedly been miraculously delivered from severe mauling, perhaps violent death, are curiously enough affected in the same way. Laying our weapons aside we sit down where we are, and with one accord give way to uncontrollable mirth. But the paroxysm is soon over, and the coolies, arriving, tell us that this bear, at which, though in such unpleasantly close proximity, I have as yet had no shot, was the only one on foot during the beat, and that they have seen no trace of the one wounded in the morning. Hastily deciding that the only chance of bagging him is to beat the jungle into which he has just gone, Hira and I leave the beaters to wait where they are till we are placed, and set off at once. Skirting along, but keeping well clear, twenty minutes' walking brings us to what will make an excellent stand. The dense cover practically ends and does not recommence till further down the river. The interval thus formed consists of a steep slope with rocks fantastically strewn about, and a few thorn bushes growing here and there. The bear cannot possibly

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take me by surprise here, and should he face the open, it will be entirely my own fault if I fail to kill. This, moreover, will be my last opportunity of bringing him to book to-day, and indeed, perhaps, ever in this locality, for after the harrying he has had he will undoubtedly change quarters during the night. The wind has now considerably abated, but rain has commenced to fall, while evening comes on apace, so that accurate shooting will soon be out of the question. We are not, however, left long in doubt, for barely are the shouts of the beaters audible, when Hira touches me quietly on the arm with a faintly whispered "Bhalu, Sahib!" and there sure enough comes our friend, little recking of the reception which awaits him, but with ears set back and attention fixed on the ever-increasing clamour behind. Seeing he will cross my line only some twenty yards below, I am in no hurry to fire, but remain absolutely motionless. When almost level, with rifle resting on a convenient rock and sights carefully aligned on a spot just between the shoulder, I steadily draw trigger. It is enough. Scarcely a sound escapes poor bruin, for almost instantaneous death follows the shock and sends him crashing lifeless down the khud. Nothing stays his headlong last career till he lies motionless, outstretched on the boulders far below. Hira is hugely delighted, as indeed am I. Climbing down to his resting-place, we find him a fine old male, so with sleeves tucked up we at once begin divesting him of his skin. Before we have proceeded far the coolies begin to arrive, and appreciating my success, each one bending himself with hand upraised to brow, utters the well-worn words, "Salaam, Sahib!" A curious oriental custom, equivalent, I suppose, to our more conventional handshake and congratulations. Then "hubble-bubbles" are mysteriously produced, and they are soon in their element. The skin once off, I see the extraordinary effect of my rifle, an ordinary ·500 Express by Lang, at so short a range. My soft lead bullet had entered the left side just *behind* the shoulder, an important point to be remembered in bear shooting, for should it come in contact with the shoulder itself disablement of the limb will frequently be the only result. On striking the first bone, a portion had split up, utterly pulverising the heart and neighbouring internal organs, while the base had traversed the whole body and remained mushroom-shaped under the skin on the far side. Night has now closed in, and in the darkness our return home is rendered somewhat difficult and tedious. But the natives know every foot of these hills, and I find my trust in them is not misplaced. Soon the cheery twinkle of the camp-fire shines through the night, making the distance appear far shorter than it really is, for innumerable nullahs intervene which have in turn to be overcome. At last we are there, and after an excellent dinner I enjoy a well-earned night's rest, interspersed with dreams of crowning my success by next day finding our wounded quarry of the morning.

But fate wills it otherwise. Day dawns without a trace of the inclement weather of the night before. We are early on the ground and carefully resume our search. The rain, however, has completely washed away all tracks, so after a fruitless quest we reluctantly desist and resign ourselves to gooral stalking. In the last two days of my leave we make up the bag to one bear and four gooral, with which I return to cantonments well satisfied.

FULL FLUSH.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it].

THAT it didna tak the bounty.

That it regrets verra much that it's no hed a chance o' bleetherin' for the last sax months.

That ta'en athegither it's been haein' gran' times lately.

That it wis a bonny dechsie the fitba team broucht doon frae Murree last year.

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That it wud like tae see it remain in the reg'ment for anither twal' months if possible.

That thae loot wallie deils hae at last made a haul.

That its no aye an advantage tae be the best shootin' company evidently.

That the officers, and sairgents' fitba' matches seemed tae be played under polo rules.

That five minutes for refreshments out o' every fifteen wis a gran' idea.

That "B" and "H" Companies are supposed tae be gain' tae Chirat this simmer.

That imagination gaes a lang way o'times.

That it disna' think Chirat's worth gaen' tae efter a.'

That a certain sairgent disna practice what he preaches.

That he didna keep cool himsel.

That the B. O. got awee bit muddled ane nicht tae.

That its' got a gran' pup the noo.'

That it wis a prize winner at the show.

That there wis ane or twa bonny beast there tae.

That there is some guid shooting frae rather an unexpected quarter.

That the thocht o'thae gowd guns must be dein' it.

That the weather is gay het for cricket the noo.

———:o:———

Sport in Somali Land.

—o—

My First Rhinoceros.

At the end of August I left the wide grassy plains of the Haud, and turned south-west towards Daghetto, to look for rhinoceros in the valley of the Taf, and among the low, thorn-covered hills which lie beyond. Crossing the Taf on September 3rd, we found some tracks, but old; so we pressed on—the valley being too dry to afford hopes of finding rhinoceros in it. On the morning of the 4th we came across fresh tracks near camp, and followed them for over two hours. Unluckily the rhinoceros got our wind and went off, giving me but a momentary view of a huge black mass, disappearing through the thick thorn jungle. We followed at a run for about half an hour, sighting them again—twice—going as hard as they could, so we had to give it up. When a rhinoceros gets your wind and bolts, the odds are very heavy against your ever seeing him again. From this day till the 11th we saw only a few old tracks though we tried several places. On the night of the 9th a lion carried off a cow from a Somali village within 250 yards of my tent and I sat up in a thorn "Zareba" the next night over the carcass. It came on to rain hard at about 9 P.M. and continued till nearly midnight. Consequently when the lion came at about 11 o'clock, it was so dark that I literally could not see my hand six inches in front of my face, though I tried more than once. The result was that the lion got away—wounded—and we never saw him again, though we found blood on his tracks next morning. This night shooting is horrid work, the best shot in the world can't be sure of his aim when he is unable to see the muzzle of his rifle not to mention the sights, and it should only be tried when there is a good moon, and there is no chance of getting the animals in any other way, for example (as on this occasion), when the whole surrounding country is covered with dense thorn jungle. On the 11th I shot a zebra, and we encamped that night beside a small nullah, on the banks of which we had found fresh rhinoceros tracks. During the night we had a heavy rain, and on the morning of the 12th the nullah was a rapid stream, brick-red, the first running water I had seen in the country. Starting at daybreak, we worked up stream towards where we had heard of tracks the previous evening. In about half an hour we came on the spoor of three rhinoceros, apparently a bull, cow and calf. The bull had gone off by himself towards the east, so, leaving the others, which had taken the opposite direction, we proceeded to follow him up. The tracks led us over a rocky hill, covered with thick undergrowth, and bad for tracking, but, on reaching the top, we found ourselves on a sort of plateau, and the ground became much more favourable for tracking, being free from stones and the earth, nice and soft after the previous night's rain. On and on we went for about two and a half hours, until at last Mir Farar, my head shikari, who was in front, saw him making off among some thick bushes, but without giving me a chance of a shot. About twenty minutes later I saw him again—a grand

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chance—about sixty yards distant, slightly down hill, standing with his head and shoulders clear off the surrounding undergrowth. Just as I was about to pull the trigger he moved off, down hill to the right, and the bullet hit him rather far back. This shot, as we afterwards found out, got him just in front of the hind quarters and owing to his being down hill, went obliquely forward and downward into his stomach. On receiving it he turned round and came out of the bushes obliquely towards us, and I thought at first he was going to charge. However, as we were above him, he could not face the hill, but passed below us about fifty yards distant, and I got in another shot as he went by, hitting him behind the shoulder. We soon found blood on his tracks, which led us through some long thick scrub, and then turned *up* hill—a bad sign—into slightly more open country. The blood now ceased almost entirely, and I began to fear he was but slightly hit, especially as he had turned up hill. However, in another quarter of an hour we came to a spot where he had been standing, and about five minutes later we saw him, standing broadside on about seventy yards off, and looking very sick. He again made off, and I could only manage to get in one more shot just as he was moving Another three hundred yards proved enough for him, however, and I eventually finished him off with a couple of shots from the 8-bore behind the shoulder. It was now 9-30, just about three hours after starting on his tracks, and we had tracked him for about six miles. My shikaris crowded round and began to shake hands with me, cheering and highly pleased at the result. Leaving them to remove the head and skin, I turned towards camp and reached it about mid-day and at once sent out a camel to bring in the head and skin.

M. McN.

The Murree Football Tournament, 1896.

—o—

ALTHOUGH it is now six months since we became the possessors of this handsome trophy presented by the Murree Brewery Company, the following accounts of our matches from notes taken at the time will be of interest:—

93RD v. 11TH HUSSARS.

This match, the opening one of the Murree Tournament, took place on September 29th. The 11th Hussars won the toss and consequently the 93rd had to face the sun. The first goal was gained by the 11th Hussars, but after that the game settled down in the 11th Hussars half of the ground, and the 93rd had matters much their own way, the pressure on 11th Hussars' goal being only occasionally relieved by short runs.

The 93rd were deprived of the services of their centre forward, Crawford, owing to an attack of ague.

Final result.

93rd ... ... 3 goals.
11th Hussars ... 1 goal.

Referee, Lieutenant Turner, R. E.

78TH v. 93RD.

This match was played on October 1st and resulted in a win for the 93rd by two goals to one, thus leaving the 93rd in the final. The 93rd won the toss and consequently the 78th had to face the sun. The game throughout was very even, the score at "half time" being one goal each. In the second half the 78th were awarded a penalty kick which luckily went straight into our goal-keeper's hands, who managed to clear it cleverly. Through some misunderstanding between the back and goal-keeper of the 78th, Clements was enabled to score a second goal for the 93rd.

Final score.

93rd ... 2 goals.
78th ... 1 goal.

93RD v. K. O. S. Bs.

The final between the above teams was played on October 7th in presence of a large audience. Our team started off with a brilliant rush and scored their first goal within 45 seconds of the start amid great cheering. We continued to press and had matters all our own way for the first half of the game, scoring two more goals before "half time." The play, and passing of Duffin and Reid in the first half was greatly admired. The 25th managed to score one goal before "half time."

Score at "half time."

93rd ... 3 goals.
25th ... 1 goal.

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After "half time" the 25th had the best of the game, scoring their second goal shortly after. On resuming the 25th were awarded a penalty kick which they managed to convert. The game after this was of an even character, and by a combined rush the 93rd scored their fourth and last goal. Just before "time" the 25th got their third goal, but could not equalize leaving the 93rd the winners of the Murree Cup by 4 goals to 3. The game throughout was of a very friendly nature. The goals for us were obtained by Reid (2), Crawford (1). McManus (1). On the conclusion of the game the two teams were formed up, and after a short speech the Captains of the teams were presented by Mrs. Clifford on behalf of the donors with Silver Cups. Mr. Brown, the Manager of the Murree Brewery, then said a few congratulatory remarks, and also expressed a hope that in future the Tournament would be as great a success as had been in 1896.

The thanks of all are due to the Murree Brewery for their hospitability and for the beautiful Cup which they have presented.

Gracie.

(*L. Back*)		(*R. Back*).
Watson.		McKimm.*
Singleton.*	Mathieson.	Benson.
(*L. Wing*).		(*R. Wing*).
McManus.*		Duffin.*
Clements.		Reid.
	Crawford.*	
	(*Centre.*)	

———:o:———

Answers to Correspondents.

—o—

MARKSMAN.—You are quite right, the bull's eye is usually near the centre of the target.

ANXIOUS ENQUIRER.—Quite a mistake. Orders are only published as a pastime, you need take no notice of them.

FITZ.—It depends on the size of the man.

ROOF OFF.—The usual price is two annas a pint.

SANDWICH.—No, a mistake, the meat is only for appearance sake.

SANDY.—You are supposed to do your guards in your proper turn, if however they interfere with your private arrangements, you have only to inform the orderly sergeant.

THIRD CLASS.—No, hits on the dummy do *not* count.

* Have since joined the Army Reserve, and will be really missed.

My Leave in 1896.

—o—

I LEFT Nowshera by the 6-30 P.M. train on the 1st August last and arrived at Rawalpindi about midnight. It was very hot in the train, and I had a white cotton suit on and found it quite warm enough. My tonga was waiting for me at the station, also the first cornet in the band who was to travel with me as far as Murree. As soon as we had got our kit tied on to the tonga we started, and the first part of our journey was pretty stuffy and dusty. I had provided myself with some ice and sodawater, so at the first change of ponies we had time for a cold drink. I rather think we had another at the second change, but after that we got caught in a thunderstorm and both got wet. Cold drinks were off after that, and we spent a good deal of time trying to keep the rain out with but indifferent success. After passing Tret we were quite chilly enough to be glad to walk on ahead of the tonga whenever ponies were changed, and we reached Sunny Bank about 8 A.M. Here the first cornet climbed up on the biggest horse he could find and departed for Ghurial, while I went to breakfast at the Sunny Bank Hotel, with the Burra Major, during which I managed to get my clothes dried a bit. We left Murree about 9 in separate tongas and crossed the Jhelum river at Kohala into Kashmir about midday. There was a good deal of excitement here as two ponies had fallen over the roadside into the river a couple of hours or so before we arrived. One was carried away and drowned, but the other had been recovered. From Murree to Kohala the road is nearly all down hill, parts of it being very steep. After crossing the river, the road follows the course of the river right up to Baramula, there being only a few places where short cuts are made. We travelled on till 7 o'clock at night, when we arrived at Gurhi where there was a nice dâk bungalow. I was uncommonly glad to get out of the tonga here, as I had had enough of jolting and banging about, and had a lump the size of a hen's egg on the small of my back where the back of seat had caught it. On unpacking my things I found that the

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rain had got through my waterproof sheets into my bedding, and my gun cases were also wet through, and I had to sleep in my overcoat. Next morning we left about 6-30, but had not gone very far when we found the road was blocked by two or three enormous rocks which had fallen down the hill. The mail tonga was there in front of us, and we tried to get that across but could not, and had to wait about an hour till coolies came up and cleared the road. In consequence of the delay we did not arrive at Chakoti till about 12 and were quite ready for our breakfast by the time it was ready for us. We drove into Baramula about 5-30, and I was glad to hear that my heavy baggage was already on my boat, and everything ready to start, so after saying good-bye to the Major I embarked and started a little before 7. After punting and towing a few miles up stream we tied up to the bank for the night.

From Kohala nearly to Baramula the road runs along a narrow valley with high hills on each side and a good deal of wood, but at Baramula you get into the vale of Kashmir—a large open plain. Next morning we started before I was awake and arrived at Sopur, just below where the river comes out of the Wular Lake, about midday. Here we cut across corner of the Lake and got into a canal. There were any number of ducks, herons and other water birds to be seen feeding on the lake which is very much overgrown with weeds, lotus, etc., making it a difficult business to get along although narrow channels are kept open. I saw a lot of water pheasants here, a bird I do not think I had seen since I was in Ceylon. They are pretty black and white birds with long tails but are not fit for eating. As we went on our canal got narrower and narrower till at last it was a mere ditch. I got out and walked for a bit in the evening and one of the first flowers I found was an English butter-cup which pleased me as much as anything I saw in the country. We got back into the river again about 5 o'clock and tied up for the night about 9 P.M. at Sumbul. Next morning, 5th August, we got into Srinagar. I was seized upon by a native banker about three miles below the town and taken up on a small boat which travelled much faster than my large one. He took me to his place, a sort of general store, and was so persuasive about his goods that before I could get away I had ordered for myself and servants four suits of puttoo and innumerable pairs of woollen and puttoo socks, gloves, putties, chaplis, etc., besides giving him an order to make a carpet and some copper things for me. I then made my way to the Chenar Bagh, a camping ground for visitors, a strip of ground between a high bank and a smelly canal with several clumps of very large chenar trees. I dined and slept in my boat as it was not worth while pitching a tent for one night. After dinner I went over to the camp of three officers of the Devonshire Regiment and had a yarn with them.

Next day I was again busy buying tinned stores, potatoes, candles, etc., and drawing money, but unfortunately could not get my bootmaker to bring my chaplis till it was too late to make a start that evening and I had to wait for another night. My shikari amused himself by getting a violent attack of colic and sent most piteous appeals to me for medicine. I had a bottle of pain killer with me and thought I would try that on him, so prepared him a dose according to the directions on the bottle with the result that he nearly died. The whole of that night he groaned and sighed which annoyed me very much as his boat was only three yards from mine. He never asked me for medicine again.

Next morning we started off down the river about 5 P.M., my intention being to get to a place called Manusbal by midday and march at once up the Sind valley. The shikari, however, insisted on going to see his doctor to obtain some antidote for the pain killer, and he delayed us upwards of an hour and a half. We went down stream Sumbul and then up a small stream into the Manusbal Lake, on the edge of which we tied up for the night as it was too late to attempt to do a march when we got there. Here I drank my last bottle of sodawater and after this drank tea at all meals. I remember it also as being one of the worst places for mosquitoes

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I have been in, and I had to have a small fire lighted to keep them off.

On the morning of the 8th I started at 6 P.M. with a party of 21 coolies and arrived at Kangan at 12-45. Nowshera in the hot weather is not a good place to keep in hard condition in, and I was very tired when I came into camp, and had one foot blistered. However, I felt better after some food and a tub, and then went and called on a missionary and his wife who were camped a few hundred yards off. They had come up from somewhere near Delhi and were sight-seeing. The next three days I marched up the valley my feet getting gradually harder. On the 12th I went over the Zogila Pass which is 11,300 feet above sea level. It is not very much above Baltal, the village at the foot, but is a very steep climb, and I was very glad to sit down at the top for a bit and eat some wild strawberries. I camped about a mile and a half beyond the top of the Pass after crossing a snowdrift. It was very cold here and I slept under three blankets. Next day I camped at Mataion and the following day at Dras, when I saw a magpie and took off my hat to it for luck. I did this several times the next day, but had to give it up as I found magpies were the staple product of the country. I once saw eleven outside my tent at the same time. On the 16th, and for a about a week afterwards, I camped every night in apricot orchards and eat the fruit till I was ashamed to eat more. They were not bad little apricots but had not very much flavour. There is a certain amount of gold found in this part of the country and I passed lots of pits by the road side where the natives had been digging for it. They do not appear to go deeper than about nine feet. One day my tiffin cooly produced what he told me was gold—and it may have been—but was quite unlike any gold I have ever got by washing, being in small thin flakes. Some parts of the road are built on galleries along the side of the cliff overhanging the river and are a little unpleasant at first. They appear strong enough though, and pack-bullocks and ponies go along them without taking any notice. On the 20th I halted at Tolti and received a visit from the Rajah of that ilk in the evening. Our conversation was not very brilliant. He could'nt talk Hindustani and I did'nt know a word of Balti or Kashmiri or whatever he spoke. With the assistance of an interpreter we got on somehow. He told there had been a war in China which I had heard before, also that three British regiments were coming to Srinagar very shortly. This was news to me and I think would also have been to the Commander-in-Chief. He then presented me with a basket of very nice apples, and I gave him ten rifle cartridges and the audience terminated. Before returning to his ancestral palace the Rajah visited my servants and had a smoke and talk with them and borrowed two candles to illuminate his banquetting hall. He was a pleasant-looking man, but looked like an opium smoker. On the 22nd I arrived at the junction of the Shyok and Indus rivers, here about half a mile broad and crossed on a *mussuck* raft. This was composed of 26 skins tightly blown with a small platform of rods on the top and was rowed by two men with sticks without semblance of a blade on them. As the current was pretty strong we were carried down some way before we got across. It took three trips to get all my party across, and we then marched into a place called Kiris. Two days later I marched into Begar where I was taken to see a game of polo, which everybody plays about three days a week. We marched to the ground in procession, the station band (two tomtoms and a brass horn) leading. The ground was about 150 yards long by 20 broad and was very stony; some of the ponies had saddles and some only blankets and the players were a most motley crew. I was pressed to play but managed to get out of it. The game was peculiar. There were 9 a side playing and they all assembled at one end of the ground, one man with the ball in his hand. At a given signal they all galloped down the ground and when they had gone about two-thirds of the way the man holding the ball threw it in the air and then struck it, after which there was a general scrimmage and

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then somebody hit a goal. After each goal both sides formed up again at one end of the ground and proceeded as at the commencement. Four or five ponies came down and several men had bleeding faces when the game was over, but they all seemed very pleased and I said I had seen no polo like it in India. At the end of the game the winning team rode up to the band, which had been playing discordantly all the while, waved their sticks in the air and cheered lustily, after which they all came and sat in a semi-circle in front of me and sang some songs which I did not understand. Two days later I had rather a lucky escape from what might have been a very nasty accident. We were marching up a newly made road about 60 feet above a river, when just after we had passed about 20 yards of the road suddenly gave way and there was a tremendous roar and splash as it fell into the pool below, which was deep and with a very strong current. I was not sure at first if all my men had escaped, but was relieved to find they had. On the 27th I arrived at the nullah in which I proposed to commence operations against the ibex, and after a day of rest for writing letters and for the shikari to prepare my grass shoes and make other *bandobast*, I started shooting.

A. S.

(*To be continued*).

—: o :—

BIRTHS.

Jackson.—At Cherat, on 25th September 1896, the wife of Drum-Major Jackson of a daughter—Eva May.

Hanson.—At Nowshera, on 19th November, the wife of Lance-Sergeant Hanson of a daughter—Helena Jessie.

Campbell.—At Nowshera, on the 21st February 1897, the wife of Sergeant P. Campbell of a son—Peter.

DEATHS.

Fingland.—At Station Hospital, Nowshera, on 9th September 1896, No. 4377, Private R. Fingland, "G" Company.

Finch.—At the Station Hospital, Nowshera, on 5th November 1896, No. 3179, Private G. Finch, "F" Company.

Classon.—At the Station Hospital, Nowshera, on 22nd February 1897, No. 4456, Private J. Classon, "E" Company.

Brodie.—At the Station Hospital, Deolali, on the 14th April 1897, Lance-Corporal Brodie, "F" Company.

Tattoo at Peshawar.

—o—

A GRAND Military Tattoo was played by the massed bands of the district on the Peshawar cricket ground on the evening of the 21st April. The bands were those of The Buffs, West Kent, 20th and 30th Punjab Infantry, 36th Sikhs and 38th Dogras, and our own.

The weather which looked very threatening in the afternoon held up fairly well, but a few drops of rain fell during the performance causing many of the spectators to take refuge in the pavilion. A large enclosure had been roped in the centre of the cricket ground, round which men were posted with torches, and with the different uniforms of the bands in the centre a very pretty spectacle was the result.

Brigadier-General and Mrs. Elles were "At Home" to their friends on the ground. The programme, which commenced at 9-30 P.M. punctually and lasted just over an hour, was got through without a hitch, and this was all the more satisfactory as the Nowshera bands had very little practice with those in Peshawar.

The following was the programme:—

ORDER OF ARRIVAL.

British Bands massed, with Torch Bearers.
Quick March: "Under the Double Eagle."
Native Bands massed, with Torch Bearers.
Quick March: "Light of Foot."

MUSICAL PROGRAMME.

First Post.

BY COMBINED BUGLERS.

1. Quick March, Pipers Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and 38th Dogras, under Pipe Major, Ninety-third Highlanders.
2. March of "The Peers" from Iolanthe.
COMBINED BANDS.
Conductor.—Bandmaster Davies, Ninety-third Highlanders.
3. Polka ... . "Holly Bush."
COMBINED BANDS AND DRUMS.
Conductor.—Bandmaster Davies, Ninety-third Highlanders.
4. Troop ... ... "May Blossom."
COMBINED DRUMS AND FIFES.
Conductor.—Sergt.-Drummer Stevens, The Buffs.
5. Selection ... ... "Faust."
COMBINED BANDS.
Conductor.—Bandmaster Stowart, Q. O. R. W. Kent.
6. Valse ... ... "Hydropaten."
COMBINED BANDS.
Conductor.—Bandmaster Hackney, The Buffs.
"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

Last Post.

BY COMBINED BUGLERS.

ORDER OF DEPARTURE.
British Bands, Quick March: ... "Lynwood"
Native Bands, Quick March: ... "Austria."
CONCENTRATION AND DEPARTURE OF TORCH BEARERS.
Quick March: "Cestaldo," by Pipers, Drums and Fifes.

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Letter tae the Auld Wife.

—o—

Ma dear Mither.

I'm no richt shair hoo lang it is sin' I last sent ye a bit screed, bit somehoo or ither oor editorial arrangements hae gaun a tapsel-teerie; ye see Mither oor editor, a young sairgent, wis sent awa' on a coorse o'—it's an awfu' lang word bit jist means sketchin—and nae yin wud be fashed wi' the paper, sae as the sang says "it faded awa' and gradually de'ed," and jist as it wis becomin' a thing o' the past wha sud turn up bit the sairgent, so "noo we winna be lang."

There's sich a wheen o' things tae tell ye that I dinna richt ken whaur tae begin.

Afore the New Year oor fitba' team made an awfu' mistake and won the Murree Cup, and while writin' this, word's tae baun that they hae lost it this year and nae wunner for fower o' oor best players are awa' hame, guid luck tae them.

On Balaclava nicht we hed a graun' veesitor, an auld mon by the name o' Rule, wha hed come a' the wey frae Bombay tae tak pairt in the deenners oor sairgents gie every year.

He hed focht thro' the mutiny in the auld Ninety-third and on compleetion o' his service stoppit in this country, and noo has a guid business o' his ain.

Whan he gaed awa' there wis a fine to do, he made a bit speech and then the men ta'en the horses oot o' his gharry—as they ca' cabs in this country—and draggit him tae the station, the sairgents weepin' bitter tears o' McEwan and whuskey mixed.

On Ne'er Day the usual festivities were keppit up. Every company haein' a graun' deenner, wi their officers and marrit folk sittin' roun' and the colonel and staff gaed roun' the hale lot and tell't each company hoo prood he wis o't and that it wis the best company in the battalion, I wis yin o' the pairty tae carry oor officers ower frae their quarters and whan he complained tae me aboot the rough passage he wis gettin' I jist says "Whisht mon, nae doot ye'll get yer ain back in the orderly room afore the year's oot."

This year the regiment got an awfu' guid name at field-firing and made a graun' percentage. Field-firing, Mither, is aboot the nearest thing tae active service that I'll see, I'm thinkin', it's jist a wheen o'tairgets stuck aboot the hills, in places whaur an enemy wud be likely to be posted, and ye get scattered oot, like ye wud be fechtin' agin an enemy, and ye creep cannily up till the tairgets firing noo and again till ye get close tae them, then ye hae the order tae charge and awa' ye go hell for leather shoutin' like the verra deil. Oh it's fine fun Mither, bit it's awfu' sair on the wun'.

Oor regimental sports cam off in March and were verra guid this year, it wud tak ower lang tae gie ye the hale programme, there were aboot forty events and a' were weel contested.

In the cauld season oor theatre wis verra seldom empty, sae mony travellin' companies stoppin' here, and oor sairgint-major got up twa fine gymnastic exhibeetions which tuk awfu' weel wi' the troops.

At last Mither we hae lost some rifles. The loot-wallahs—ye min' ma tellin' ye o' them afore—were hangin' aboot the station for twa-three nichts last month, and yin nicht managed tae get clean awa' wi' eicht rifles.

Oor last bit o' excitement wis a graun' dog show, got up by oor Commandin' Officer, there wis a' awfu' collection o' animals, naethin' wis barred and onythin' wi' fower legs and a tail wis made welcome, hooever I canna grumble masel' seein'. I got a second prize wi' yin o' Tibbie's pups, it micht interest you tae hear it's supposed tae be a bull-terrier.

Noo, Mither, I'll conclude, wi' love tae Rab, Tibbie and the bairns.

Believe me,
Your lovin' son,
JOCK.

P. S.—Hae ye got ony mair o' yon yarn yet.

———:o:———

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM LONDON GAZETTE, DATED 2ND MARCH 1897.

To be Captain.—Lieutenant A. Patten.

To be Lieutenant.—2nd Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish, from 12th February 1897.

EXTRACT FROM LONDON GAZETTE DATED 22ND MARCH 1897.

To be Lieutenant.—2nd Lieutenant R.B. Graham, from 9th December 1896.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Quartermaster Sergeant—No. 1280 Colour-Sergeant R. Lundie, "F" Company.

To be Colour Sergeants—No. 1994 Sergeant R. Mitchell, "F" Company.

No. 621, Sergeant J. H. Symcox, "A" Company.

To be Sergeant—No. 2258, Lance-Sergeant C. Towers, "A" Company.

To be Lance-Sergeants—

No. 2886,	Corporal	W. Miller,	"C"	Company,
,, 3077,	,,	C. Johnstone	"B"	,,
,, 2794,	,,	G. Inglis,	"H"	,,
,, 1484,	,,	A. Watters,	"C"	,,
,, 2343,	,,	T. Gillespie,	"A"	,,

To be Corporals—

No. 4062,	Lance-Corporal	Langdon,	"E"	Company.
,, 3138,	,,	Fawcett,	"E"	,,
,, 3680,	,,	Haskell,	"H"	,,
,, 3411,	,,	Smith,	"D"	,,
,, 3396,	,,	Rankin,	"D"	,,
,, 3628,	,,	Poole,	"D"	,,

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

As Lance-Sergeants—

No. 2886,	Lance-Sergt.	W. Miller,	"C"	Company.
,, 3146,	,,	W. Clarke,	"H"	,,

As Lance-Corporals.

No. 4397,	Lance-Corporal	E. Cody,	"C"	Company.
,, 4393,	,,	Keeble,	"H"	,,
,, 2479,	,,	D. Gordon,	"D"	,,
,, 4303,	,,	A. Hansen,	"A"	,,
,, 4232,	,,	T. Doyle,	"G"	,,
,, 5021,	,,	Duncan	"E"	,,
,, 3750,	,,	Peace,	"F"	,,
,, 3885,	,,	Mahoney,	"C"	,,
,, 2736,	,,	Hall,	"G"	,,

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Sergeant Drummer—No. 1780, Sergeant J. Mackie, "G" Company.

To be Pioneer Sergeant—No. 4129, Corporal R. Wilson, "F" Company.

To be provisional Lance-Corporals—

No. 4094,	Private	E. Mitchell	"F"	Company.
,, 5219,	,,	M. Sutherland,	"F"	,,
,, 4803,	,,	W. J. Fenton,	"G"	,,
,, 3553,	,,	A. Selley	"B"	,,
,, 4290,	,,	J. Duff,	"D"	,,
,, 3764,	,,	J. Adcock	"B"	,,
,, 4806,	,,	W. Norrie	"G"	,,
,, 3557,	,,	F. Hiscock,	"F"	,,
,, 3344,	,,	A. Lawrie,	"F"	,,
,, 3400,	,,	E. Smith,	"H"	,,
,, 5295,	,,	E. Bearley,	"G"	,,
,, 5290,	,,	W. Allan,	"A"	,,
,, 5287,	,,	C. Munro,	"A"	,,
,, 2954,	,,	J. Wilson,	"F"	,,
,, 4885,	,,	J. Develin,	"D"	,,
No. 3405,	Private	F. Hanlon,	"D"	Company.
,, 3995,	,,	T. Liddle,	"D"	,,
,, 3924,	,,	J. Blackwood,	"C"	,,
,, 5230,	,,	D. Yardley,	"H"	,,

To be Drummers—

No. 4868,	Private	H. Gifford,	"A"	,,
,, 5349,	,,	J. Clarkson	"B"	,,

To be Acting Drummers—

No. 5090,	Private	J. Muchan,	"H"	,,
,, 4876,	,,	W. Malcolm,	"H"	,,

To be Acting Piper—

No. 3786,	Private	J. Chapman,	"A"	,,

To be Acting Bandsman—

No. 5134,	Private	Lightbody,	"F"	,,
,, 5254,	,,	L. Ferguson,	"B"	,,

To be Drill Corporal—

No. 4143, Lance-Corpl C. Charters, "F" ,,

To be Bazaar Sergeant—No. 3969, Private W. Cocker, "C" Company, appointed Local Sergeant whilst acting as Conservancy Overseer.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years with the Colours:—

No. 2760,	Sergeant	J. Gunn,	"C"	Company.
,, 1756,	,,	N. Ramage,	"A"	,,
,, 1980,	,,	J. Mackie,	"G"	,,
,, 2129,	,,	R. Murray	"B"	,,
,, 2794,	Lce-Sergt.,	G. Inglis,	"H"	,,

Extended service to complete 12 years with the Colours—

No. 3138,	Lce.-Cpl.	W. Fawcett,	"E"	Company.
,, 3037,	Sergeant	G. Arnott,	"B"	,,
,, 3151,	,,	C. Stubbs,	"H"	,,
,, 3079,	Private	A. Wallace,	"B"	,,
,, 3553,	,,	A. Selley,	"B"	,,
,, 3186,	Lce.-Cpl.	F. Robinson,	"H"	,,
,, 3077,	Corporal	C. Johnson,	"B"	,,
,, 3236,	Lce.-Segt.	R. Miller,	"B"	,,
,, 3538,	Private	J. Farquharson,	"C"	,,
,, 3394,	Lce.-Segt.	E. Durnan,	"D"	,,
,, 3616,	Sergeant	R. Thomson,	"D"	,,
,, 3921,	Private	S. Blackwood,	"C"	,,
,, 2954,	,,	G. Wilson,	"F"	,,
,, 3531,	Corporal	F. Marks,	"H"	,,

EMPLOYMENT.

In Grocery Bar.—No. 4628, Lance-Corporal T. Ballantyne, "E" Company.

In Coffee Shop.—No. 4132, Private F. W. Short, "D" Company.

As Pioneer.—No. 3290, Private T. Gibbon, "D" Company.

As Assistant Orderly Room Clerk.—No. 4721, Private T. Wylie, "B" Company.

To be Station Staff Clerk.—No. 3650, Lance-Corporal Haskell, "H" Company.

TRANSFERS.

Sergeant Towers	from	"A"	to	"B"	Company.
Corporal Langdon	,,	"E"	,,	"A"	,,
Colour-Sergt. Mitchell	,,	"F"	,,	"A"	,,
Corporal Smith	,,	"D"	,,	"B"	,,
,, Rankin	,,	"D"	,,	"A"	,,
,, Poole	,,	"D"	,,	"G"	,,

Gunner Norman Campbell from R. A. and posted to "C" Company.

Gunner J. Roberts from R. A. posted to "G" Company.

Private J. Martin "F" to "A" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 4*d.* per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 825, Lce.-Corpl. A. Mitchell.

The following have been granted 2*d.* per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 3808, Lce.-Corpl. J. Allison.	No. 3814, Pte. T. Baillie.
,, 3804, Pte. J. Thompson.	,, 3825, ,, A. Binns.
,, 3553, ,, G. Buchanan.	,, 3858, ,, J. Coupland.
,, 3861, ,, J. Gilfether.	,, 3869, ,, J. McCabe.
,, 3927, ,, W. Walker.	,, 3928, ,, J. Hayward.
,, 3967, Lce.-Corpl. J. Duncan.	,, 3942, ,, A. Dare.
,, 3827, Pte. J. Smyth.	,, 4000, ,, E. McConnell.

"B" Company.

No. 3735, Pte. G. Stewart.	No. 3744, Pte. F. Davis.
,, 3764, ,, J. Adcock.	,, 3776, ,, H. Strachan.
,, 3494, ,, C. Gray.	,, 3724, ,, J. Phipps.
,, 3755, ,, A. Hollingberry.	,, 3758, ,, W. Brindley.
,, 3783, ,, J. Edgar.	,, 3749, Dmr. A. Hollands.
,, 3864, ,, A. Johnson.	,, 3674, Pte. T. Glen.
No. 3975, Lce.-Corpl. A. Donnelly.	No. 3978, Pte. G. Russell.

"C" Company.

No. 3505, Pte. J. Benson.	No. 4397, Lce.-Corpl. E. Cody.
,, 3134, ,, M. Kilp.	,, 3863, Pte. W. Patterson.
,, 3885, Lce.-Corpl. E. Mahoney.	,, 3925, ,, T. Cassidy.
,, 3921, Pte. J. Blackwood.	,, 3960, ,, D. White.
,, 3969, ,, W. Cocker.	

No. 3967, Pte. J. Currie.

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"D" Company.

No. 3748, Pte. W. McLaughlan.
,, 3899, ,, E. McCulloch.
,, 3383, ,, Stewart.
,, 3995, ,, T. Liddle.
No. 3405, Pte. F. Hanlon.
,, 3867, ,, J. Hammond.
,, 3926, Lce.-Corpl. Ayres.
,, 3996, Pte. R. Hennie.

"E" Company.

No. 3134, Pte. M. Kilpatrick.

"F" Company.

No. 3794, Pte. J. Mathieson.
,, 3757, ,, J. Adamson.
,, 3761, ,, W. McIntosh.
,, 3743, ,, E. Millen.
,, 3787, Lce.-Corpl. J. Stephens.
,, 3767, Pte. A. Hunt.
No. 3873, Pte. J. Buckley.
,, 3785, ,, J. Butler.
,, 3745, ,, G. Frankum.
,, 3525, ,, J. McKenzie.
,, 3759, ,, A. Peace.
,, 3765, ,, W. Weller.
No. 4013, Pte. G. Frankum.

"G" Company.

No. 3771, Pte. G. Emmett.
,, 3099, ,, R. Gordon.
No. 3890, Pte. R. Houston.
,, 3931, ,, A. Buckland.

"H" Company.

No. 3739, Pte. C. Sutton.
,, 3742, ,, F. Wood.
,, 3807, ,, E. Fell.
No. 3732, Pte. C. Golding.
,, 3870, ,, F. MacKey.
,, 2951, ,, H. Bryson.

The following have been granted 1d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 4250, Pte. W. Keattons.
,, 4789, ,, T. Sheridan.
,, 5001, ,, J. Wallace.
No. 5307, Pte. W. Russell.
,, 4515, ,, R. Donaldson.
,, 5287, ,, C. Munro.
No. 5299, Pte. W. Allan.

"B" Company.

No. 5227, Pte. H. Hyslop.
,, 5253, ,, R. McGibbon.
,, 4793, ,, T. Harrison.
,, 3758, ,, E. Eburn.
,, 5429, ,, J. Campbell.
,, 4752, ,, W. Lang.
,, 5254, ,, W. Stewart.
,, 2534, ,, J. Archer.
No. 5284, Pte. A. McIntyre.
,, 4835, ,, M. McFarlane.
,, 5252, ,, L. Ferguson.
,, 4161, ,, H. Stadames.
,, 5390, ,, A. Stewart.
,, 4721, ,, T. Wylie.
,, 3944, ,, W. Friend.
,, 4223, ,, J. Hutton.
No. 4136, Pte. W. Thomas.

"C" Company.

No. 4286, Pte. J. Foreman.
,, 4160, ,, J. Young.
No. 5356, Lce.-Corpl. J. Leitch.
,, 5392, Pte. R. Duncanson.

"D" Company.

No. 5257, Pte. R. Archibald.
,, 5291, ,, R. Tawse.
,, 5279, ,, W. Pollock.
,, 5328, ,, Cunningham.
No. 5260, Pte. P. Smith.
,, 5116, ,, A. McDonald.
,, 5172, ,, J. McArthur.
,, 5248, ,, J. Orr.
No. 5163, Pte. Allen.

"E" Company.

No. 5293, Pte. D. McBean.
,, 5420, ,, H. Thacker.
,, 4031, Dmr. D. Smeaton.
,, 5358, Pte. D. Took.
No. 5408, Pte. A. Ewing.
,, 5256, ,, T. Atkinson.
,, 4757, ,, J. Cullen.
,, 5288, ,, W. Stewart.
No. 5379, Pte. A. Buchanan.

"F" Company.

No. 5235, Pte. R. Brown.
,, 5232, ,, J. McNicol.
,, 3612, ,, A. Ridgeway.
,, 4509, ,, A. McNeill.
,, 5263, ,, R. Duncan.
,, 5275, ,, H. Brown.
,, 5363, ,, R. McNiel.
No. 5438, Pte. T. Brown.
,, 5234, ,, J. Gray.
,, 4926, ,, J. Richardson.
,, 5229, ,, W. Saunders.
,, 4427, ,, W. Murphy.
,, 4881, ,, J. Fraser.
,, 5265, ,, A. Hamilton.
No. 5674, Pte. H. Babington.

"G" Company.

No. 3300, Pte. J. Carroll.
,, 4987, ,, J. Gilmour.
,, 4654, ,, C. Bennie.
,, 5269, ,, J. Skene.
,, 4925, ,, J. McNeill.
,, 5327, ,, R. Nest.
,, 4957, ,, J. Gilbert.
No. 5002, Pte. J. Bennett.
,, 4619, ,, W. McKinnon.
,, 4420, ,, J. Craig.
,, 5323, ,, H. Creed.
,, 5340, Dmr. W. Fogg.
,, 5387, Pte. R. Munro.
,, 5432, ,, L. McQuade.

"H" Company.

No. 5149, Pte. J. McNair.
,, 4843, ,, J. Turner.
,, 5257, ,, W. Carruthers.
No. 5401, Pte. J. McGuire.
,, 5230, ,, J. Yardley.
,, 4923, ,, H. McTaggart.
No. 4576, Pte. A. McDougall.

RESTORED 2D. PER DIEM.

"E" Company.

No. 2809, Pte. J. Lyons.

"G" Company.

No. 3648, Pte. J. Latchford.

RESTORED 1D. PER DIEM.

"A" Company.

No. 3791, Pte. J. Adams.
No. 3822 H. Patten.
No. 3800, J. Balmer.

"B" Company.

No. 3081, Pte. W. Patterson,
No. 3746, Pte. W. Brown.

"C" Company.

No. 4124, Pte. J. McDonald.
,, 3924, ,, H. McMillan.
No. 3706 Pte. C. Murray.
No. 3567, Pte. W. Hatt.
,, 3836, ,, P. Crosbie.

"D" Company,

No. 3402, Pte. P. O'Donnel.
,, 3748, ,, A. McLachlan.
No. 4028, Pte. W. Martin.
,, 3902, A. Thomson.

"E" Company.

No. 4002, Dmr. R. McLachlan.
,, 4366, Pte. A. Graham.
No. 4706, Pte. E. Bain.
,, 4771, ,, J. Olliver.

"F" Company.

No. 4231, Pte. J. Fox.
,, 3789, ,, W. Goff.
No. 3779, Pte. S. McCaw.
,, 3988, ,, H. Brown.

"G" Company.

No. 3365, Pte. J. Petrie.
No. 4220, Pte. W. Sheridan.
No. 4330, Pte. D. McDonald.

"H" Company.

No. 3484, Pte. T. McGowan.
No. 3778 Pte. Kelley.
No. 4754, Pte. Hawthorne.

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

Awarded 1st Class Certificates:—

No. 713, Cr.-Sergt. A. McDonald, "D" Company.
,, 1280, ,, ,, R. Lundie, "F" ,,

Passed Part I.

No. 1938, Cr.-Sergt. L. Robinson, "E" ,,
,, 3810, Corpl. J. Stobbie, "G" ,,
,, 3144, ,, A. Olden, "H" ,,
,, 5053, Pte. Martin, "H" ,,
,, 3732, ,, Golding, "H" ,,
,, 5229, ,, Saunders, "B" ,,

Awarded 2nd Class Certificates:—

No. 3759, Lce-Corpl. A. Peace. "F" Company.
,, 3257, ,, ,, A. Pannell "A" ,,
,, 4103, Pte. A. Dipper "G" ,,
,, 4594, ,, J. Barclay, "E" ,,

Awarded 3rd Class Certificates:—

No. 4846, Lce-Corpl. W. Bracey, "B" Company.
,, 4568, Pte. A. McGregor, "D" ,,
,, 4008, ,, J. Duffin, "E" ,,
,, 3684, ,, R. Webb, "G" ,,
,, 3943, ,, A. Duttie, "A" ,,
,, 3960, ,, J. McClure, "A" ,,
,, 3748, ,, W. McLachlan, "B" ,,
,, 4018, ,, F. Hill, "E" ,,
,, 5297, ,, W. Andrews, "G" ,,
,, 5238, ,, T. Rowe, "B" ,,
,, 5252, ,, L. Ferguson, "B" ,,
,, 5003, ,, W. Hall, "E" ,,
,, 5193, ,, W. Henderson, "F" ,,
,, 4388, ,, J. McBride, "C" ,,
,, 3090, ,, G. Gardner, "D" ,,
,, 4119, Lce-Corpl. R. Martin, "H" ,,
,, 4761, ,, ,, A. Bowie, "H" ,,
,, 4079, Pte. M. Mossman, "B" ,,
,, 5081, ,, R. Kelley, "C" ,,
,, 5043, ,, D. Gibbon, "B" ,,
,, 4194, ,, A. Elliott, "F" ,,
,, 5663, Boy, Edwards, "B" ,,

TRANSPORT CERTIFICATES.

Qualified as Regimental Transport Assistents:—

No. 3138, Lce-Corpl. Fawcett "E" Company.
,, 4526, ,, ,, Watt "A" ,,
,, 5219, ,, ,, Sutherland, "F" ,,
,, 3559, ,, ,, Hiscock, "F" ,,

PASSED FOR PROMOTION.

To Rank of Sergeant:—

No. 2343, Corpl. T. Gillespie. "A" Company.
,, 3551, ,, H. Kerr, "F" ,,

To Rank of Lance-Corporal:—

No. 3764 Lce-Corpl. J. Adcock, "B" ,,
,, 2479, ,, ,, D. Gordon, "D" ,,
,, 4628, ,, ,, T. Ballantyne, "E" ,,
,, 3358, ,, ,, J. Dodds. "C" ,,

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No. 4846, Lce.-Corpl. W. Bracey, "B" Company.
,, 4397, ,, ,, E. Cody, "C" ,,
,, 4590, ,, ,, J. Watson, "F" ,,

DRAFTS FROM THE HOME BATTALION.

Arrived on the 14th January and posted as under :—

"B" Company.

No. 5390, Pte. A. Stewart.	No. 5441, Pte. J. McIntyre.
,, 5426, ,, G. Struthers.	,, 4595 ,, J. Dolan.
,, 5261, ,, J. Jones.	,, 5429, ,, J. Campbell.
,, 5384, ,, W. Ralston.	,, 5434, ,, J. Fraser.
,, 3799, ,, J. Stevenson.	,, 5504, ,, J. McGilvray.

No. 5653 Boy. J. Edwards.

"C" Company.

No. 5025, Corpl. H. G. Poole.	No. 5356, Lance-Cpl. J. Leitch.
,, 4844, Pte. P. McCormack.	,, 5117, Pte. J. McVea.
,, 4002, ,, G. Golledge.	,, 5270, ,, J. Fraser.
,, 5308, ,, J. Lowe.	,, 5392, ,, R. Duncanson.
,, 5485, ,, A. Holden.	,, 5513, ,, W. Thomson.

No. 5669, Boy, H. Darwood.

"D" Company.

No. 4879, Pte. R. Baillie.	No. 5509, Pte. T. Weston.
,, 4912, ,, R. McLeish.	,, 5280, ,, A. Douglas.
,, 5328, ,, J. Cunningham.	,, 5394, ,, J. Ross.
,, 5501, ,, J. Houston.	,, 5542 ,, R. Hunter.
,, 5604, ,, Thomson.	,, 5611, ,, D. Quigley.
,, 5535, ,, R. Watson.	,, 4815, ,, W. Scott.
,, 5482, ,, E. Wright.	,, 5488, ,, A. Gillon.
,, 5490, ,, C. Smith.	,, 5616, ,, J. Leitch.
,, 5577, Boy, J. Deloughrey.	,, 5694, Boy, J. Blake.

"E" Company.

No. 4841, Corpl. J. Ogg.	No. 5094, Pte. A. Lynch.
,, 4949, Pte. J. Chalmers.	,, 5358, ,, D. Tosh.
,, 5379, ,, A. Buchanan.	,, 4706, ,, G. Bain.
,, 5283, ,, C. McCue.	,, 5310, ,, A. McDonald.
,, 5408, ,, A. Ewing.	,, 5480, ,, R. Wilson.
,, 5551, ,, W. Montgomery.	,, 4809, ,, D. Howie.
,, 5758, Boy, E. Parry.	,, 4805, Boy, W. Wylde.

"F" Company.

No. 3239, Sergt. T. Twycross.	No. 4860, Pte. R. Sinclair.
,, 4570, Pte. T. Given.	,, 5120, ,, J. Moffat.
,, 5073, ,, G. Morrison.	,, 5135, ,, J. Smith.
,, 5131, ,, W. O'Neill.	,, 5344, ,, H. Giletly.
,, 5138, ,, T. Daily.	,, 5438, ,, T. Brown.
,, 5142, ,, P. McGee	,, 5325, ,, W. Caswell.

No. 5095, Pte. L. O'Connor.

"G" Company.

No. 4886, Corpl. J. Hearn.	No. 4813, Pte. J. Savage.
,, 5378, Pte. J. Munroe.	,, 5305, ,, D. Brown.
,, 5321, ,, P. Allen.	,, 5457, ,, W. Morton.
,, 5615, ,, W. Fletcher.	,, 5228, ,, P. Carson.
,, 5286, ,, H. Eite.	,, 5318, ,, H. Gordon.
,, 5427, ,, W. Henderson.	,, 5517, ,, J. Archibald.

No. 5323, Pte. H. Creed.

"H" Company.

No. 4880, Pte. A. McMillan.	No. 5020, Pte. J. Scott.
,, 5304, ,, H. McCole.	,, 5500, ,, H. Sear.
,, 5503, ,, C. Reeves.	,, 5464, ,, R. McNeil.
,, 5486, ,, J. Burns.	,, 5478, ,, J. Daily.
,, 5451, ,, D. Comrie.	,, 5379, ,, A. Radley.
,, 5601, ,, E. Daniels.	,, 5051, ,, D. Donaldson.
,, 5428, ,, T. Brown.	,, 5336, ,, J. Henderson.
,, 5432, ,, L. McQuade.	,, 5534, ,, W. Menzies.
,, 1818, ,, J. Morrison.	,, 5531, ,, J. Brown.

No. 3607, W. Pollock.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

BEST SHOT OF BATTALION.

	£	s.	d.
No. 2590, Sergeant W. Smith, "D" Company ...	1	9	9½

2ND BEST SHOT.

,, 3374, Private D. Gordon, "D" Company ...	0	19	10½

3RD BEST SHOT.

,, 2571, Lance-Corporal J. Walsh, "G" Company ...	0	9	11½

MEDAL.

No. 3485. Private C. Burch, "F" Company, has been granted the Silver Indian Medal with Clasp, "Relief of Chitral, 1895."

Musketry Result for the year 1896-97.

—o—

	Figure of Merit.
"A" Company	122
	45
"B" ,, ...	106
	32
"C" ,, ...	105
	41
"D" ,, ...	102
	40
"E" ,, ...	118
	38
"F" ,, ...	105
	39
"G" ,, ...	111
	41
"H" ,, ...	116
	41

Total for Battalion :—

Marksmen	... 94
1st Class	... 277
2nd ,, ...	... 522
3rd ,, ...	... 93
Battalion figure of merit ...	... 111
	40

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We have to acknowledge with many thanks receipt of our many contemporaries during the last six months and must apologise for not having sent the *Thin Red Line* in return.

Pocket Ready Reckoner for 1897.

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to the
Mess.

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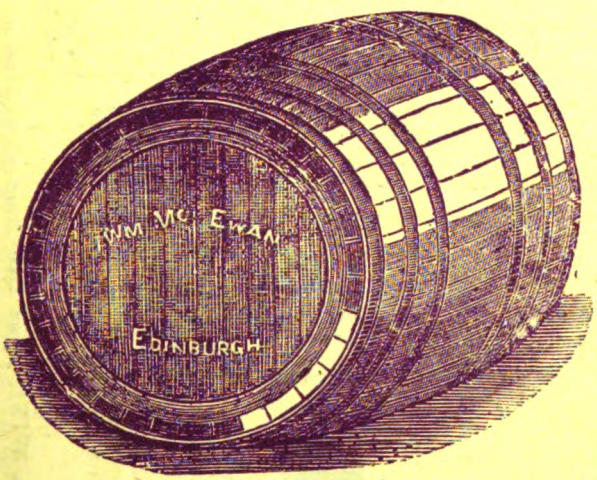

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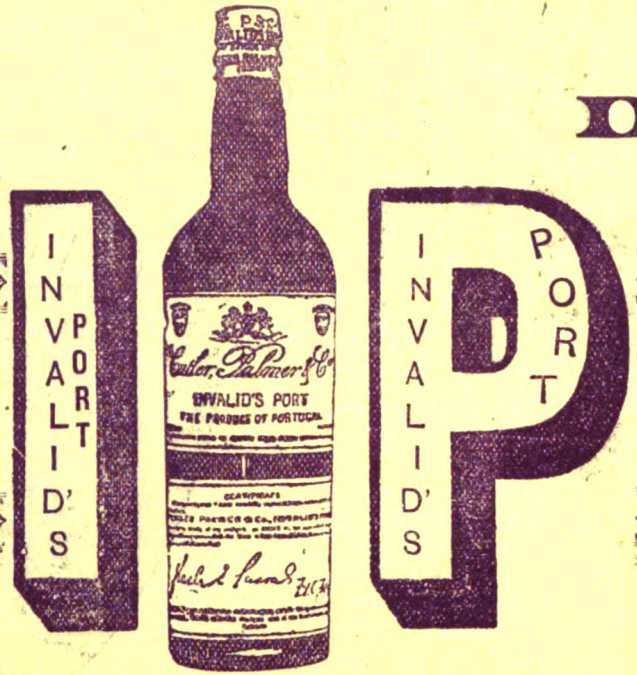

THIS PARTICULAR WINE is as free from alcohol as it is possible for Port to be to retain the natural characteristics of a delicate and suitable Wine for Invalids.

Professor CASSAL has analyzed our Invalid's Wine, and his certificate of purity is attached to every bottle we ship. Our Wine has fraudulent imitations, we therefore ask that those who order this particular Wine of ours should see that the bottles bear the Professor's name in addition to our own.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO., LAHORE.

Simla Agents—Messrs. E. PLOMER & Co.

LAHORE: Printed and Published for the Proprietors by the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press.

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June 1894

The Thin Red Line.

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WILLIAM WATSON & Co.,

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(ESTABLISHED 1867)

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"MODELS OF INDIAN SERVANTS."

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At Rs. 12, 18, 25, 35, 45, and 50 each.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 8—Vol. III. NOWSHERA.—JUNE 1897. Price 2 Annas

NOTICE.

Any shortcomings or irregularities that may occur during the next few months will, we hope, be overlooked, as the Battalion has been ordered on Field Service in Waziristan, and there will no doubt be some difficulty in publishing the paper monthly and up to date, every endeavour will be made, however, to supply our readers with news from the front.

an inch and a half or more in diameter; all the skylight windows on the weather sides of the bungalows were broken, and a hailstone that came through into "B" Company's barrack was found to measure 4½ inches in circumference. For at least an hour after the storm the whole country wore a most wintery and desolate appearance, many trees having large branches broken off, whilst young spring foliage strewed

So far the new month has brought anything but seasonable weather, it having up to the present been most unsettled, duststorms and heavy showers of rain alternating every few days. The temperature has been consequently low and one can hardly believe that the hot weather is about to commence, reveillé at 5 A.M., and retreat at 7 P.M. being the only present indications, excepting, of course, mosquitoes that the summer is near.

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BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS, PASSAGE AND FORWARDING AGENTS,

(ESTABLISHED 1867)

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2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 8—Vol. III. NOWSHERA,—JUNE 1897. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

NOWSHERA was treated to a terrific hail-storm on the afternoon of the 6th ultimo, a most unique experience with all looking forward to the more seasonable swing of a punkah. The storm was of short duration, but of great violence, and many of the hailstones must have been an inch and a half or more in diameter; all the skylight windows on the weather sides of the bungalows were broken, and a hailstone that came through into "B" Company's barrack was found to measure 4½ inches in circumference. For at least an hour after the storm the whole country wore a most wintery and desolate appearance, many trees having large branches broken off, whilst young spring foliage strewed the ground in all directions. A torch-light tattoo had been arranged to take place on the same evening, but the weather continued to be unpropitious and it was postponed.

* * * * * *

The "alert" was again sounded just before two o'clock on the night of the 6th ultimo, thieves having been reported attempting to enter "E" Company's bungalow. One of the sentries on the Magazine saw figures passing near his post soon afterwards and his challenge not being answered he fired. The Bengal Lancers were out almost immediately, but the intruders, whoever they were, got away.

* * * * * *

So far the new month has brought anything but seasonable weather, it having up to the present been most unsettled, duststorms and heavy showers of rain alternating every few days. The temperature has been consequently low and one can hardly believe that the hot weather is about to commence, reveillé at 5 A.M., and retreat at 7 P.M. being the only present indications, excepting, of course, mosquitoes that the summer is near.

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Another night march and attack took place on the early morning of the 5th, the battalion parading at 2-30 A.M. and attacking a position held by the 38th Dogras about daybreak. The battalion returned to quarters about 6 o'clock.

* * * * * *

"B" Company have finished their Annual Musketry Course for 1897 with an average of 124. Pte. Hollingbery is "Company Shot" with a score of 190.

* * * * * *

After having been postponed, the torch-light tattoo, by the combined bands, pipes and drums of the garrison, took place on Saturday night on our regimental parade ground. The night was an almost ideal one for such a display and our bandmaster must be congratulated upon the success of the entertainment. A cordon of torch-bearers of our own men and the Dogras surrounded the ground whilst in the centre lanterns were suspended from a framework under which the bands were massed. Both officers and sergeants were "At Home" and dispensed hospitality, and it was nearly eleven o'clock before the grand finale, when squads of the Dogras firing volleys, added to the realism of the battle music, and greatly disturbed the ladies. The "Queen" concluded the very effective entertainment, of which a programme is appended.:—

"THE GUN."

"1st Post by Combined Buglers."

GRAND MILITARY TATTOO.

SYNOPSIS.

March of the Scotch Brigade (The Campbells are coming), Roll of Drums, Signal Call for Infantry (March of the Infantry Brigade), Signal Call for Cavalry (March of the Cavalry Brigade), Roll of Drums, "The Prayer, Amen." Grand Hymn.

2. *Overture* ... ... "William Tell" ... ... ROSSINI.
(Introducing the Grand Storm scene in the Alps).

3. *Slow March* ... ... "The Green Hills of Tyrol." COMBINED PIPERS.

4. *Fantasia* ... ... "Reminiscences of Scotland." GODFREY.

SYNOPSIS.

"Scots wha' hae," "Auld Robin Gray," "Hielan' Laddie," "Campbells are comin'," "White Cockade," "John Anderson my Jo," "Logie o' Buchan," Green grow the rushes," "Braes o' Ochtertyre," "Blue Bells of Scotland," "Annie Laurie," "Edinboro' Toun," "Kate Dalrymple (with variations)," "Strathspeys and Reels," "Auld Lang Syne."

5. *Descriptive March*... "The Turkish Patrol" ... MICHAELIS.

6. *March* ... "We'll gang nae mair to yon toon." COMBINED PIPERS.

7. *Grand National Fantasia* "Episodes in a Soldier's Life." KAPPEY.

SYNOPSIS.

"Come if ye dare." "For England, Home and Beauty," "Assembly," "British Grenadiers," "Garry Owen," "Hielan, Laddie," "Girl I left behind me," "The Anchor's Weighed," The Lass that loves a Sailor," "Hornpipe," "Disembarkation," "Night in Camp," "Enemy approaching," "Fire," "Advance," "Charge," "Battle Music with realistic effects," "Victory," "See the conquering hero comes."

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

* * * * * *

Now that the summer has at last arrived, there is naturally a dearth of news, and that antedeluvian topic, the weather, will have to supply the deficiency. May has certainly been a most changeable month being almost as unsettled as a proverbial April. A few days have registered a fairly high temperature, but there have been some exceptionally cool ones (making the hot days hotter by contrast), and the thermometer registered as low as 64° on the day of the hailstorm. The punkahs did not start swinging until the 24th, and since then it has been quite possible to dispense with them on several occasions.

* * * * * *

This cool weather has unfortunately not had such beneficial effects as may have been supposed, and there is a considerable amount of fever about, brought on no doubt by the trying uncertainty of the season, a too free use of the swimming baths, also, has no doubt caused some of the sickness, and it is much to be regretted that men are not more careful.

* * * * * *

The usual summer scale of parades is of course *de rigeur* with all attendant privileges, and life is certainly bearable. The drafts and invalids (yclept "H" and "B" Companies) and the band are away to Cherat, and another party of invalids to Murree; five companies are left to do duty here and to fire their annual course of musketry. "D" Company have finished table B with an average in individual practices of 118, whilst "F" Company are already leading their last year's average and have two more distances yet to fire at. Lance-Corporal Gordon is "D" Company's best shot with a score of 175.

The canteen beer is now brought in cans to the bungalows, as is the drinking water from the well by a fatigue party, and a bhistie's billet must be something of a sinecure.

* * * * * *

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The football team did not repeat their success of last year at Murree, but should not despair, as according to all accounts they played a good game and had a lot of hard luck.

A description of the match against the Gordons, the eventual winners, with all excuses, will be found in another column.

* * * * * *

Captain S. L. Robinson has passed the Higher Standard Urdu.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant H. C. Macdonald has been granted another four months' extension of leave by the recommendation of a medical board, and it is much feared that he will not serve with the battalion again owing to his continued ill-health.

* * * * * *

Captain A. Patten has been invalided home and sailed on the 1st May last. We hope soon to hear of his complete recovery.

* * * * * *

We regret to announce the death of Sir Robert Dick Cunyngham, Bart., formerly Lieutenant in the Ninety-Third Highlanders. He received a commission as ensign, 10th August 1855. Served as Lieutenant in the Indian Mutiny and was severely wounded at the action of Kudjwa, 1st November 1857, receiving the Mutiny Medal with Clasp for Lucknow. He retired in 1863. His younger brother is Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Dick Cunyngham, V. C., late of the Regiment, and now commanding the Ninety-Second.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant A. H. Maclean has qualified for the appointment of Acting Paymaster.

* * * * * *

Private A. Dale, "A" Company, has passed in Pushto by the Lower Standard.

* * * * * *

Feelings are very mixed just at present amongst the time-expired men of next trooping season as, somehow or other, a report has become current that men going home next winter are to be collected at Deolali and then sent to the Cape for service. As at present, however, there is no war in the Transvaal and no order for time-expired men to be drafted there, it is hardly necessary for men with their "Seven in" to trouble much about such rumours.

It has been decided that we remain in Nowshera for another twelve months, despite the many rumours of our going to Dum-Dum, Rawalpindi, Amballa, Aden and Hades. Taken all together "it's a nice quiet place," and barring lootwallahs, the heat, mosquitoes and sand-storms, and a few other little unpleasantnesses, we might certainly be in a much worse station, and it is advisable to be thankful that it is no worse. Next drill season, with the Forty-Second coming to Peshawar, there will be a Highland Brigade in the district, and it only needs the Seventy-Ninth to complete the Crimean Brigade.

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Suggested by R. O. No. 14, Dated 17th May 1897.

—o—

THIS is the senior officer, who listened with glee
To the orderly officer, who reported that he
Had seen the orderly sergeant, who in his turn
Reported in tones respectful but firm,
That two of his men, staunch and true,
Would sleep by the arm-rack all night through;
That also he had, and he told it with pride,
The ammunition-box key, wherein he did hide
The key of the padlock used at night,
To keep the rod through the bolt quite tight,
That fixes the rifles that stand in the rack,
That stands in the section with the wall at its back,
In the Company bungalow, neath the Indian sky,
At Nowshera, in the lines that are known as B. I.

MAC.

———: o :———

Extract from some Old Orders.

—o—

THIS is how "B" Company went to Cherat the last time they were stationed there:—

Regimental Order No. 1, *dated Peshawar*, 11*th July* 1862.

"Agreeable to Brigade Orders of this date, No. 8 Company, strength as per margin, will parade at their own barracks at 6-30 P.M. to-day, and proceed *en route* to Cherat, there to be stationed until further orders.

1 Captain, 1 ensign, 3 sergeants, 2 corporals, 1 drummer, 94 privates.

"The detachment will be carried on elephants at the rate of 6 men per elephant. The men will be dressed in line of march order with serge frocks."

Serge frocks in July must have been a little uncomfortable.

Regimental After Order, dated Camp Umballa, 16th November 1859, *republished for information and guidance.*

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"The major-general having observed that a number of men of the regiment are in the habit of shaving the upper lip contrary to an order from Horse Guards in January 1857, the commanding officer strictly prohibits this practice and any found infringing this order will be liable to be punished for disobedience of orders."

Moustaches.

Regimental Order No. 1, *dated Umballa*, 16*th November* 1857, *republished for information but* not *for guidance.*

The following extract from Station Orders is published for general information:—

"The major-general directs that the hair at the back of the head should be kept reasonably short, that at the sides and top should not be more than three inches long and the front hair, when combed straight over the forehead, should not touch the eyebrows."

Hair.

Fancy a soldier of the present day appearing on parade with hair three inches long.

There is a sort of idea that in the old days the principal employments of a soldier were fighting, drinking and swearing, and that the present ideas of kit inspections and such like are quite modern. Such, however, does not appear to be entirely the case.

The oldest regimental order we can find at present, is dated Ridge, Antigua, 3rd March 1827, and the subject "Marking of Necessaries."

Regimental Order No. 9, *dated Jhansi*, 16*th February* 1867.

"As the barrack master reports that cots dipped into the bug-boilers with the tape on are apt to be cracked by the tape contracting, owing to the heat of the water, the commanding officer directs that the tape be invariably removed before thus dipping the cots."

SCENE.—Outside the Gymnasium; Squad jumping the "Cuddy."

Instructor to one of the men. "Now, then, you never had both your hands closed that time, you only had one."

A LAMENT, FROM "D." COMPANY.

I've been shifted about from here to there,
That bungalow, this bungalow, everyhere;
I breakfast in one, and my dinner at least
Can be called as in Prayer-books a movable feast.

T. C.

My Leave in 1896.

(*Continued*).

—o—

ON the 29th August I started out about 5-15 A.M. for my first day's shooting. I had a good deal of trouble with my grass shoes at first, as I could not find out how to tighten them up and nothing would induce my shikari to put them on any way but very loosely. He preferred to wear his flopping about his feet and thought everybody else ought to. I did not find these shoes as uncomfortable as I had expected. One wears first a pair of woollen socks and then a cloth boot each, with a separate compartment for the big toe, and the shoes are then put on and tied up with a string passing between the big toe and the vent. This is rather unpleasant when going down hill for long at a time, but one gets used to it, also to stepping very carefully as one's toes project beyond the sole of the shoe and one is very liable to bang them against stones and also to avoid the thorns, which of course a grass shoe is no protection against. They are wonderfully good things to walk in when you are used to them, but do not last very long in stony ground, so you always take out several spare pairs.

I saw nothing this day. While I was eating my breakfast, my shikari went away by himself and saw two small ibex which were not worth going after, so we returned to camp about 3-30 P.M. and after an early dinner I turned in about 7-30 P.M.

Next morning I started soon after 5 up another small nullah, and after going a good way up the shikari spotted about a dozen ibex, which after a good deal of difficulty, he made me also see. They were lying down at the foot of a cliff about 400 yards off and in a rather difficult place to get at. We got behind a small knoll in the middle of the nullah and waited for them to move. It was raining when I left camp in the morning, and off and on during the morning, and before noon it got very cold and there were some sleet and hail showers. I got so cold at last that I told the shikari I did not think it was any good waiting any longer. I had been there three hours and the ibex had not moved and if we couldn't stalk them then, I proposed to return to

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camp and come up again the following day, in the hope of finding them on better ground. This drew the shikari, and he said he thought we might try a stalk but we had first to cross a bit of open ground. This we managed all right, one by one crawling on our stomachs, and then got out of sight of the ibex and moved up towards them, and eventually got to a place where I was told I could not get beyond. If I was to be in the same position again I should have gone on alone, as I believe in the rain I could have got a good bit nearer with only showing myself for two or three yards at the beginning. The shikari was very anxious for me to fire, but I told him it was absurd as the beasts were lying down nearly 300 yards off and the light was bad. However he persisted, and I eventually said I would shoot if the rain stopped, a few minutes after there was a blink of sunlight, and having found a good place I lay down and fired at the biggest ibex I could see. The shikari said the distance was about 250 yards. I fancy it must have been fully this, as I had the 200 yards sight up and aimed at the top of the horn. All the ibex jumped up when I fired and the two men with me declared one was badly wounded. I could not see the one I had fired at very well as he was rather a light-coloured one, so fired my left barrel at a darker one, and then the whole herd bolted. My men declared both were wounded and we found some blood on the ground, and going on a little saw the ibex crossing some snow some way ahead, the two wounded ones keeping behind. As it was now about three o'clock and beginning to snow, the men thought it too late to follow them, as we saw the risk of not being able to get back to camp that night if we did, and I was reluctantly obliged to agree. It snowed heavily on the way down the nullah and our backs were white with snow when we got back to camp about 6 P.M. Next morning I sent out men to bring in the heads, which they did in the afternoon. Both ibex had been hit too far back. There was no difficulty in finding them as the bodies were surrounded with vultures which had torn the skins to pieces and eaten a good deal of the flesh. The horns measured 41 and 37 inches.

On the 1st September I had a blank day, seeing nothing, and on the 2nd I shifted my camp about four miles up stream. The 3rd was another blank day, the shikari saw one ibex with about 16-inch horns, but that was not worth going after. On the 4th I had a tremendous climb up another nullah, at the top of which we saw some ibex on an absolutely unstalkable position, so sent a man round to try and move them. Four of them came, past me at less than 40 yards distance, one indeed stood and looked at me within 20 yards of me, but they were all very small and I refused to fire. I got back to camp and was very glad to find some letters waiting for me, these being the first I had received since leaving Nowshera.

(To be continued).

———: o :———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it].

THAT simmer is vera late in startin' this year.

That it's no a bit ower late tho'.

That it quite thoucht it wis back in *Blighty* agin' when they hail stanes wis comin' thro' the roof.

That ony nigger wha knocks aboot o'nichts wi'oot a lantern 'ill ha'e a lively time o'it.

That the torch licht tattoo wis a gran' success.

That there disna' seem tae be ony derth o'Drum Majors in the reg'mint.

That "B" Company jist had a walk-ower for the cricket clock this year.

That a' the young sojers are awa' tae the hills.

That the fitba' team hae hed their usual luck.

That seeing they're a young team they hae bags o'time tae mak' up for ony defeeciencies.

That Dundee and "D" Company wis just a bit elated ane nicht syne.

That the man in charge o'the gun wull hae his work cut out on the 21st.

That some o'the T. E. men hae their doots as tae the salubreety o'the climate o'the Cape.

That it's remainin' in Nowshera for anither twal' month'

That it micht gae tae a waur place.

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Cricket Clock Tournament.

—o—

THIS year it being somewhat late in the season before cricket was thought about, the possession of Colonel Trotter's clock was decided by "Cup Tie" rules, the usual League system being much too lengthy with the hot weather upon us and playing not being admissible till after 5 o'clock. Last year owing to changing stations and press of other work "B" Company's possession was not disputed, but this year a formidable rival, "H" Company, with two reputable bowlers appeared upon the scene; most fortunately, the drawings of the ties left these two companies to decide the possession of the clock in the final match, and the interest in the tournament was thus sustained until the end. In fact, it will not be far wrong to say that never before has so much interest appeared to have been evinced in cricket, more especially in the final match when the whole battalion must have been present. The tournament itself calls for little comment; "H" Company easily vanquished their opponents in the first and semi-final rounds, getting rid of them for ridiculously small scores; in the final, however, their bowling was completely collard and they were practically beaten in the first hour's play. "B" Company had only three of the team who won for them the clock in 1895 and, taken all round, were not such a good team as in that year, having a more decided "tail" but their best men nearly always scored, and the promotion of Corporal Smith from "D" Company at a critical time gave them perhaps, the best bowler in the regiment.

FIRST ROUND.

"H" Company beat "A" Company.
"E" " " "D" "
"B" " " "G" "
"F" " " "C" "

SEMI-FINAL ROUND.

"H" Company beat "E" Company.
"B" " " "F" "

FINAL.

"B" Company beat "H" Company.

"B" COMPANY v. "G" COMPANY.—Played on 1st May, resulting in a win for the holders by 49 runs. *Scores*:—"B" COMPANY, Lance-Sergeant Stonor 38, Corporal Smith 8, 2nd Lieutenant Harvey 1, Horan 29, Henry 0, Macgregor 7, Lance-Sergeant Johnstone 5, Lance-Corporal Adcock 0, Johnson 0, Russell, not out, 0, Logan 0, Extras 5, Total 98.—"G" COMPANY, Ault 12, Corporal Beavis 6, Skene 0, Regan 3, Mayze 0, Bamfield, not out, 1, Benson 7, Craig 0, Irwin 3, Doyle 2, Young 2, Extras 13, Total 49.

"B" COMPANY v. "F" COMPANY.—Played on 7th May; "B" Company winning by 12 runs and 7 wickets. *Scores*:—"F" COMPANY: Brockwell 0, Dundas 3, Atherton 7, McLeod 4, Hunt 20, Halleron 3, Lance-Corporal Charters 1, Adamson 1, Lance-Corporal Peace 0, Robertson, not out, 0, Extras 10, Total 54.—"B" COMPANY, Lance-Sergeant Stonor 24, 2nd Lieutenant Harvey 16, Corporal Smith, not out, 18, Horan 0, Lance-Sergeant Johnstone, not out, 3, Extras 5, Total 66 for 3 wickets.

"E" COMPANY v. "D" COMPANY.—Played on 1st May and resulted in a win for the former by 6 wickets. *Scores*:—"D" COMPANY, Brown 15, Stephenson 4, Jenkins 0, Lance-Corporal Potter 15, Burns 15, Lance-Sergeant Hanson 0, Allan 16, Gadd 0, Houston 0, Cole 11, Burke, 3, not out, Total 79.—"E" COMPANY, Corporal Fawcett 5, Hamilton 6, Lance-Corporal Fitchett 25, Hill 28, Lawrence 16, Extras 2, Total (for 4 wickets) 80.

"H" COMPANY v. "E" COMPANY.—Won by "H" by 2 runs. *Scores*:—"H" COMPANY, Corporal Marks 8, Daniels 15, Lance-Corporal Robinson 18, Lance-Corporal Keeble 11, Arm-Sergeant Holden 34, not out, McTaggart 1, Glossop 0, Kelley 3, Carruthers 3, Scott 10, Newland 2, Extras 10, Total 115.—"E" COMPANY, Lance-Corporal Duncan 0, Corporal Fawcett 0, Mathieson 0, Lance-Corporal Fitchett 5, Hill 0, Gowans 1, Hamilton 0, Lawrence 8, Adams 9, Chalmers 0 not out, Lance-Corporal Wellington 0, Extras 11, Total 34.

"B" COMPANY v. "H" COMPANY.—Played on 10th and 11th May, "B" Company winning easily by 117 runs. *Scores*:—"B" COMPANY, Lance-Sergeant Stonor 44, 2nd Lieutenant Harvey 32, Corporal Smith 0, Russell 22, Horan 6, Lance-Sergeant Johnstone 7, Macgregor 19, Lance-Corporal Adcock 4, Johnson 4, Logan, not out, 6, Hunter 3, Extras 13, Total 165.—"H" COMPANY, Arm-Sergeant Holden 2, Daniels 1, Lance-Corporal Keeble 2, Corporal Marks 0, Lance-Corporal Robinson 16, Glossop 0, McTaggart 2, Carruthers 14, Kelley 3, Scott, not out, 1, Cameron 0, Extras 2, Total 48.

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The Murree Football Tournament.

—o—

"Beaten in the first Round!" Ye Gods!! Such a thing has never before happened to us in the annals of football. However with so many of our last year's team away we could expect little else, for although the present eleven are a likely lot they have not had sufficient experience, and to meet the Gordons in the first round, to say the least, was hard luck. And then our opponents had a 5 to 1 defeat to wipe off, given them in a friendly match last winter at Nowshera before our time-expired men left for Deolali. This, however, has nothing to do with the present Tournament so to proceed.

This year ten teams entered, and there were some very good games indeed. Our teams left Nowshera on the 10th May taking the trophy back with them, and arrived at Murree on the 11th; this left them just over a week in which to settle down and get accustomed to the change of air, hardly sufficient time really when a change of altitude from 800 to 6,000 feet is considered, and as last year some of the men were sick for the first few days. The tournament commenced on the 19th, and on 21st we playe, our first and, as it happened, only match.

Play commenced soon after 5 P.M., and Gracie who won the toss elected to defend the goal with the sun at his back. After about ten minutes' play the Gordons, from the left wing

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scored their first goal, and soon afterwards their centre forward put the ball into net, making the score 2 to *nil* against us, the score thus remaining to 'half time.' Curiously soon after starting a slight wind arose and was strong enough to be an advantage to our opponents. After five minutes' interval the game was recommenced and our kicking off looked dangerous; the Gordons immediately strengthened their back division and played a purely defensive game until the whistle blew, the ball only crossing our line about four times, and Gracie was only once called upon to save his goal. Our forward line, however, could not make any impression, and the game resulted in a win for the Gordons by 2 goals to love.

The final was played on the 27th when the Gordons beat the Somersets by 2 goals to love and thus became the winners of the Cup.

On the night of the final the Gordons entertained all the teams against whom they had played, the Somersets, Rifle Brigade and ourselves to a dinner in their Regimental Theatre at Kaldanna. A very pleasant evening was spent and our team left Murree the following day for Nowshera. The team goes to Cherat for the hot weather and should do their utmost to regain their prestige when the opportunity arrives next cold weather. The following team played at Murree and was excellently trained by Lance-Sergeant W. Miller :—

Gracie* (Captain).

Kerr.		Scott.
Benson*	Mathieson*	Johnson.
Cairns	Lance Cpl. Watson*	Pollock.
	O'Donnell Jamieson.	

WAITING MEN.—Henry, McNee and Patterson.

* Played in the tournament last year.

—: o :—

Tae the Auld Wife.

—o—

MY DEAR MITHER,

It gettin ower het tae send ye onythin' worth readin' and as tae fillin' a sheet o' paper wi'news, it's jist oot o' the question.

The simple act o' liftin up yer airm tae dip the pen in the ink is enough tae make ye dreep wi' sweat and whan ye gang tae turn the papers ower, ye drap oot o' yer chair wi' sheer exhaustion.

Ye may think I'm daeing whit they ca' in the airmy "chancin' ma mitt" bit I can tell ye its every bit as bad, aye an worse.

Ma fears regardin oor fitba team hae turned oot tae be, I'm sorry tae say, only ower weel founded. We got knockit oot in the first roun' by the "Gey Gordons" as they ca' theirsels, and they turned oot the winners, so tho' defeated we were na disgraiced.

May be next year oor team will gie a better accoont o' theirsels.

We hae gotten a sairgent-major at last mither; dae ye min ma tellin ye aboot a color-sairgent McDonald at Dagshai, wha captured the "Siller King" single-handed, weel he's been appointed sairgent-major and a gran braw chiel he looks wi' his crown and sword, eh bit there wud hae been gran rejoicins in Dundee whan they heard the news.

Noo the het weather's in, we have stairtit the open air concerts, we hae them fortnichtly and they pass the nicht awa fine, the only thing agin them, in ma opeenion is, that they make ye awfu' drouthy.

The punkahs hae stairted, bit I tell't ye a' aboot them laist year, they gae wi' a wheezin noise, finishing up wi' a hinch and kick, that's awfu' soothin whan ye get used tae it, bit it wud tak a man mair than his sivin tae get used to it.

Ma company won the cricket clock this year agin, this is the third year mither I hae been in the winnin team; we hae a fine young officer in the company noo, wha gaes in for fitba, cricket, in fact everythin' and I dinna think he's a tee-totaler.

I'll hae tae stop noo, for the water I'm sittin' in tae keep cool is gettin' sae het that I canna thole it ony langer, so wi' best love tae Rab, Tibbie and the bairns.

I remain,
dear Mither,
Yer lovin' son,
JOCK.

P.S.—Tell Tibbie I'm savin' up tae hae my photos ta'en.

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Billiard Handicap.

—o—

ON the advent of the hot weather, football and cricket became things of the past, no one being sufficiently energetic to organize a moonlight match at either of those pastimes, so Tommy's attention naturally turned to such games as could be played in the bungalows under the punkahs.

Foremost among indoor games stands Billiards, and owing to the energy of our librarian, Sergeant Hanson, a Billiard Tournament was held during the beginning of last month. The popularity of the tournament was sufficiently proved, no less than thirty-three men entering and the handicappers Privates MacGregor and Mansfield, who also called and marked the games throughout, acquitted themselves most creditably of the task assigned to them and succeeded in bringing about some very close finishes notably between Lance-Corporal Laurie and Corporal Langdon, Lance-Corporal Short and Private Short, Lance-Corporal Currie and Private Patterson and Corporal McPherson and Private Smith.

Private Mack had no easy task set him, but given a truer table and ivory balls would, I feel sure, render a very good account of himself from the same mark.

The commanding officer kindly added Rs. 9 to the entrance fees and very substantial prizes were thus offered for competition.

The library throughout the tournament was crowded, and one ne occasion no less than 250 assembled to witness a game, thereby, nearly stifling the players and markers.

Lance-Corporal Smith took the prize for the best break, winners barred, with an unfinished break of 28.

Below is given a detailed account :—

1ST ROUND.

Lce.-Corpl. McRae 100, (30)	v. Lce-Corpl. Doyle 89 (20).
Pte. Connel 100, (25)	v. Pte. Wilson 90, (15).
Lce-Corpl. Smith 100, scratch	v. Lce-Corpl. Charters 59, (20).
Pte. Bamfield 100, (25)	v. ,, Starling 89, (35).
,, Short 100, (50)	v. ,, Short 95 (50).
,, McWhirter 100, (30)	v. Pte. Daniels 66, scratch.
,, Stanford 100, (35)	v. ,, Spedding 83, scratch.
,, Smith 100, (15)	v. Corpl. McPherson 95 (30).
Lce-Corpl. Laurie 100, (25)	v. ,, Langdon 99, (20).
Pte. Mack 100, owes 100	v. Pte. Halford 87 (40).
Lce.-Corpl. Currie 100, (45)	v. ,, Paterson 98 (30).
Pte. Gilletly 100, (25)	v. Piper McLean 93 (20).
Lce.-Corpl. Davidson 100, (20)	v. Lce.-Corpl. Ballantine 71 (40).
,, Yardley 100, (20)	v. ,, Watson 89, (25).
Pte. Goff 100 (20)	v. Pte. McAuley (25).
,, Kellagher 100, (35)	v. ,, Dundas 73, (30).
,, Atherton (30)	Bye.

2ND ROUND.

Lce.-Corpl. Smith 100, scratch	v. Lce.-Corpl. McRae 94 (30).
,, Laurie 100 (25)	v. Pte. Gillety 64 (25).
Pte. Smith 100 (15)	v. ,, Short 87 (50).
,, Goff 100 (20)	v. Lce.-Corpl. Currie 60 (45).
Lce.-Corpl. Yardley 100 (20)	v. Pte. McWhirter 81 (30).
,, Davidson 100 (20)	v. ,, Bamfield 64, (25).
Pte. Mack 100, owes 100	v. ,, Kellagher 82 (35).
,, Atherton 100 (30)	v. ,, Connell 91 (25).
,, Stanford (35)	Bye.

3RD ROUND.

Lce.-Corpl. Davidson 100 (20)	v. Lce.-Corpl. Yardely 91 (20).
Pte. Smith 100 (15)	v. ,, Laurie 84 (25).
,, Mack 100, owes 100	v. Pte. Atherton 96 (30).
Lce.-Corpl. Smith 100, scratch	v. ,, Stanford (35).
Pte. Goff (20)	Bye.

4TH ROUND.

Pte. Goff 100 (20)	v. Pte. Mack 69, owes 100.
,, Smith 100 (15)	v. Lce.-Corpl. Smith 52, scratch.
Lce.-Corpl. Davidson (20)	Bye.

SEMI-FINAL.

Lce.-Corpl. Davidson 100 (20)	v. Pte. Goff 40 (20).
Pte. Smith (15)	Bye.

FINAL.

Pte. Smith 250 (15)	v. Lce.-Corpl. Davidson 209 (20)

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Temperance Topics.

—o—

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES, "EXCELSIOR," TENT NO. 190.

It is a long time Mr. Editor since we have had the pleasure of supplying anything to your pages, the fault being not entirely all on our side. During this long time, however, we have been going along most favourably and are continually adding to our membership. Our officers for the present half year are Pte. Dobson, "B" Company, Chief Ruler ; Pte. Gilfin, "H" Company, Deputy Ruler, with Pte. Irwin, "G" Company, as Secretary.

During the last month most animated discussions have taken place on, "What I intend doing when I return to *Blighty*." Time expired members (time expired with respect to their service with colours and not with regard to their enlistment in the cause of temperance) have been very keen upon the subject, and all seem to be firm in their intention of joining the ranks of the Benedicts when they reach "their ain countrie" once more.

I. O. G. T.

Glad to have the pleasure of letting you know that the "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge is still flourishing under the able guidance of the Chief Templar Private Gollen, "B" Company. At present endeavours are being made to arrange suitable programmes for the hot weather. A considerable number of "ours" are away to Cherat, and it is expected that a branch will be established there very shortly. Private Campbell, "F" Company is our energetic Secretary, and Corporal Rastall, District Sub-Deputy.

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A Musketry Story.

—o—

THE 694th Regiment of Foot, otherwise known as the Prince of Wales' Royal Cockshot Bullseye Beaters, was a regiment which (if it could not do anything else), whatever it *wasn't*, was essentially musketarian—to coin a word to meet the occasion.

The colonel of the regiment, Colonel Rickough Shay, a fine old specimen of the old school, spared neither man nor devil to arrive at his object, and that was, that no other regiment was going to cut him out on the range, not if he knew it; so at it he went with a fury of a tiger, combined with the subtlety of a serpent. At first very small results appeared to be the reward for an immense amount of labour. The post of musketry-sergeant in the Bullseye Beaters was distinctly not sought after, and it was only after many dismissals that at length Colonel Shay flattered himself he had at last obtained the article required. Sergeant Figramerit was originally orderly-room clerk, then in the Quartermaster's office, then canteen sergeant, from which billet he had been removed for mastering the difficult arithmetical problem to divide one by two and have a remainder. How he managed it never transpired, but he certainly sold 112 gallons of beer out of a 56 gallon cask, which can only be done by a born genius, and you must not put a genius in the canteen; but genius or no genius is not the point.

Sergeant Figramerit was standing in front of the colonel, who was glaring at him with quivering ferocity, and "hoping you recognise your position in the regiment," and, "look here, Sergeant Figramerit, I hope you quite fully understand that as musketry-sergeant in the Bullseye Beaters, I don't expect you to go down to the butts and chew tobacco and spit about the place and think you've done your duty. No, sir, by gad, sir, I expect you to take the deepest interest. Do you hear, sir. The very deepest interest," and the colonel's eye rolled with an awful frenzy. "And please to remember that the musketry of the regiment does not consist in merely hitting the bullseye or centre so many times, but in seeing it duly *recorded*—d'ye hear, sir, *recorded*," roared the colonel. "Yes, sir," roared the sergeant. "Then go." After this things moved a little smoother. The shooting of the B.B.'s was decidedly improving. The same old thing went on daily, as the colonel pranced round. "Well done, my lad," as the bullseye disc went up; "you'r the man for me ——, Gadelmighty!" as the miss signal goes up on No. 4 platform. "Who's that made that miss? " &c., &c.

Now, whatever people may say to the contrary, there is no doubt that insanity is catching —any way the captains of companies became infected. Colour-sergeants, sergeants, squad commanders, for the time being went raving mad, and this madness led to excellent results, for there was no doubt that the shooting of the regiment was going up by leaps and bounds; each succeeding company beating the record of its predecessor. Now there was in the regiment two captains. Captain Riturn of "L." Company and Captain Lefturn of "G." Company, who were most anxious to go on long leave to Kashmir, but they knew that both couldn't go; they also knew that a high figure of merit in their company was a safe road to the colonel's most exalted opinion, so at it they both went.

Captain Riturn, "L." Company, proceeded to the ranges in great glee, as also did his men, for had he not told them: "Now look here, men, you've kept off drink this last week as you promised. So I keep my promise, four annas for every bullseye," and jubilant was that company, and long and earnestly did they aim. Each shot was fired in breathless silence, and the result hailed with a soft sigh or muttered oath as the occasion demanded, and at the end of the week that company proceeded straight to the canteen.

. . . We draw a line . . . . . and the regimental police had a busy time of it.

Now Captain Riturn had made a very respectable figure, and it was noticed that he went about with a sort of modest dignity, and, needless to say, became with Colonel Shay quite an authority on things musketry, and so the weeks rolled by until it came to the turn of Captain Lefturn's company to shoot.

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Now Captain Lefturn had been much exercised in his mind what to do. Riturn's company had shot exceptionally well ; they averaged over first-class shots, and there were only about thirty seconds, and no third-class out of nearly sixty men. Such a record was bad to beat, but then long leave must be got somehow.

Lefturn had passed many sleepless nights, and had been off his feed for some days. At last he decided to ask counsel of his colour-sergeant. Now No. 15,309 Color-Sergeant Sharpes Kneadel had also been pondering deeply this matter, and thought he saw a way out of the difficulty. So when Captain Lefturn said to him one day, "Well, Kneadel, company seems off the drink, but that last draft would spoil a company of angels."

"Don't know, sir ; they're a likely-looking lot, and it's wonderful what a little encouragement does."

"Yes, yes, I know ; I am going to give four annas a bull."

"Well, sir, if you'll leave the matter to me—*entirely* to me—I think I can ensure the men shooting straight."

"Well, Kneadel, I leave it to you" ; and so the matter ended, and the next morning the company embarked on its annual course.

The company is just nearing the ranges. Captain Lefturn is in earnest conversation with his colour-sergeant.

"Yes, Kneadel, I leave the matter entirely in your hands. If you think four annas a bull enough all right, but I am willing to go five—Halt, front—We will begin with No. 4 section from the bottom of the roll."

"Yes, sir. Private Blindman and Neveritt on No. 1 platform ; Lance-Corporal Missit and Private Canstrikitt on No. 2 ; Privates Badshott and Duckseg No. 3 ; and Phunkitt and Jumps No. 4. All ready, sir? Shall we sound ?"

Captain Lefturn, looking through his glasses : "All clear, I think. Bugler, sound the 'commence fire.'"

"Kook Ker Tee—Kook Ker Tee Koooo."

Bang.

"Hullo, Phunkitt! What the devil's the matter? You mustn't turn your head to the rear and shut both eyes when you fire. You can't possibly expect to hit the ——"

"Private Phunkitt, a bull's-eye—four," shouted the register-keeper as the signal went up at the butts.

"Private Blindman, a centre—three."

"Private Missit, a bull's-eye, four," and so on, and so on.

Captain Lefturn's company was making most remarkable shooting. It was as if a company of Buffalo Bills had turned out. It showed indeed what a company could do that kept off the drink, and paid attention to good instruction, that did not mind four solid hours' position drill daily. Bullseyes were turning up plentifully just now, and the excitement was intense, almost painful. It was a mad epidemic, an infectious fever, and the range became quite a theatre everyone trooping down to see the glorious results of discipline drill, study, attention, and abstinence.

The colonel was simply an awful living exemplification of autocratic exhortation or withering scorn.

Now the bullseyes rolling in, in this rapid manner, were causing Captain Lefturn grave anxiety, and one morning, pocket book in hand, while the shooting was in progress, he was busy in reducing 1,632 bullseyes to rupees, and the painful conclusion he arrived at was that if Bullseyes went on at the present rate, it would cost him two months' pay !

At this moment, the colonel with his back well arched (inwards) and his chest well arched (outwards), and with a "back-the-bullseye expression on his countenance, rode up, and taking out his pocket book made the following note—"Good, reliable, painstaking, energetic, useful officer of keen observation and methodical habits ; takes notes of men's shooting. Leave to Kashmir *ad lib*—Riturn's leave cancelled."

"Well, Lefturn, how are you getting on ?"

"Badly, sir, badly, Rs. 408."

Fortunately at this moment the colonel with a yell uttered his war cry, clapped both spurs to his steed, and with condensed fury rode straight

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for the man on No. 4, but much practice makes perfect, and the well-trained steed, calculating the distance to a nicety, drew up in his accustomed style, one inch from the object aimed at, which in this case, was Private Blindman, "Gadsur" (another garlic expression), "d'you expect to hit the target pulling the trigger with the wrong finger, pulling down the figure of merit, and disgracing the——"

"Private Blindman, a bullseye, four!" shouted the register-keeper as the signal went up.

"Well done, my man," said the colonel. "Always use your second finger, I suppose?"

"Yes sir, since I left my first in Burma, sir."

"Ah! good. Well, let your captain know you have my permission to use your second in future."

The sun sails high in a cloudless abyss of blue ether. There is a perfume of orange blossoms (likewise other) in the mid-day air. Grateful showers (I always think it should be "gratifying" showers, but I notice it is literary to speak of them as "grateful"), grateful showers have laid the impalpable dust as the last trigger pressed, the last shot fired, the last bullseye signalled, the company, with swelling hearts (and anticipatory thirsty throats) marches back to barracks.

Two black crows of ebon hue beat the bosom of the ocean of space with their feathery pinions, keeping time with the triumphant tramp of the tiny troop of proud hearts that are wending their beaming way back to bungalow and barracks.

An emaciated *pye* dog, pausing in its mid-day meal off the succulent hoof of a defunct *bile*, rises deferentially on its hide-bound haunches and begs with solemn, silent awe as the little column of marksmen pass. The colonel heads the column riding as one in a sweet dream.

Captain Lefturn marches behind him as one in an unpleasant nightmare—a company of marksmen! Think of it, grasp it ye gods—but, oh, the cost, the cost! The days of his childhood float before him—bulleyes four a penny, but these bulleyes, thousands of them, four a rupee.

'Tis evening, the eve of reckoning. Captain Lefturn in his room. His boxes are packed and labelled "Kashmir." His colour-sergeant, Sharpes Kneadel, rigid as a Noah's ark man stands before him. He has just received an oblong slip of paper, and with his left hand at the salute, has drawn back the right foot until the ball of the toe accurately rests against the heel of the left, preparatory to leaving the official presence, when Captain Lefturn speaks.

"Before you go, Kneadel, I think you owe it to me to explain how it's done."

"Well, sir," says Kneadel, "you see Captain Riturn gave his bullseye money to the men. That's mistake, sir, for its no use shooting straight with careless marking, and to guard against this I gave mine to the markers."—*Frank Truelier in "The Man of the World."*

———: o :———

Answers to Correspondence.

—o—

SNATCHER.—Two gallons appears to be quite enough for one man at 12 o'clock.

WALKER.—We are certainly in favour of wearing socks.

PECUNIARY.—If you can't settle up, the better plan is to go sick,

NATURALIST.—By the description we should say the animal is a dog.

THREE STRIPES.—Certainly, pay the caterer first, you are sure of more strap.

BEGINNER.—It is unusual to have more than five cards at Nap.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTION.

Under Authority No. $\frac{18}{51}$ $\frac{291}{}$ D,

War Office, 7th April 1897, No. 713, Color-Sergeant A. McDonald, "D" Company, is promoted Sergeant Major from 29th September 1896.

To be Color-Sergeant:—

No. 3086, Sergeant J. Middeby, "G" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals:—

No. 3889, Privitte W. Campbell, "B" Company.

No. 4567, Private D. Inglis, "G" Company.
" 5269, " J. Skene, "G" "

To be Drummer:—

No. 5270, Private J. Fraser, "B" Company.

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EMPLOYMENT.

To be Gunner :—
No. 3786, Private H. Mayze, "G" Company.
To be Clerk in Pay Office :—
No. 4983, Private M. Rutherford, "E" Company.
To be Pioneers :—
No. 4216, Private G. White, "C" Company.
" 4967, " G. Sear, "H" "
" 4158, " H. Douglas, "F" "
" 5369, " A. Hadley, "H" "
As Acting Bandsman :—
No. 5716, Private McGeechan, "B" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years' Service :—
No. 2049, Private W. Hunter, "A" Company.
To serve 12 years with the Colors :—
No. 3839, Lance-Corporal W. Campbell, "B" Company.
" 3050, Corporal J. Haskell, "H" Company.

GYMNASIUM CERTIFICATES.

The undermentioned have been granted 2nd Class Certificates of Gymnasia :—
No. 4137, Private J. Hyndmarsh, "G" Company.
" 3654, " J. Marshall, "G" "
" 4110, " J. Wicks, "G" "
" 3771, " J. Emmett, "G" "
" 2458, " E. Lillywhite, "B" "
" 3628, " E. Bull, "D" "
" 3626, " W. Cook, "D" "

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

1st PARTY OF CASUALS.

		£	s.	d.
No. 3236, Lce-Sgt.	R. Miller, "B" Company	0	15	0
" 3300, Private	D. Ward, "C" "	0	12	0
" 834, "	A. McKay, "E" "	0	10	0
" 4141, "	A. Thomson, "H" "	0	10	0
" 4110, "	G. Wicks, "G" "	0	8	0
" 3435, "	G. Lock, "E" "	0	8	0
" 3123, "	W. Johnson, "C" "	0	6	0
" 4153, "	T. Sutton, "C" "	0	6	0
" 5451, "	D. Comrie, "H" "	0	5	0
" 5488, "	A. Gillon, "D" "	0	4	0
Best Shot of Sergeants—				
No. 2519, Sergeant	W. Smith, "D" Company	0	7	0
Commander of best Section (Individual Practice)—				
Lance-Sergeant	R. Miller	0	7	0
Commander of best Section (Sectional Practice)—				
Lance-Sergeant	R. Miller	1	1	1

"A" Company.

		£	s.	d.
No. 4304, Lance-Corporal	A. Hansen	0	15	0
" 5757, Private	A. Grant	0	12	0
" 3022, "	W. Moat	0	10	0
" 4868, Drummer	H. Gifford	0	8	0
" 5287, Lance-Corporal	C. Munro	0	8	0
" 3596, Corporal	A. Rankin	0	6	0
" 4531, Private	C. Armour	0	5	0
" 3814, "	T. Bailey	0	5	0
" 5580, "	J. Eccles	0	3	0
Best Shot of Sergeants—				
No. 3006, Sergeant	A. MacDonald	0	6	0
Commander of Best Shooting Section (Individual Practice)—				
No. 845, Sergeant	F. Ross	0	6	0
Best Section Commander (Sectional Practice)—				
No. 2348 Lance-Sergeant	Gillespie	0	12	0
Commander of Best Section (Runing and moving Target)—				
No. 1756, Sergeant	N. Ramage	0	6	0

NURSING CERTIFICTES.

The following have been granted Certificates for efficiency in Nursing :—
No. 2430, Corporal A. Miller, "F" Company.
" 4763, Private J. Patterson, "E" "
" 4427, " W. Murphy, "F" "
" 4158, " H. Douglas, "F" "
" 4655, " H. Walton, "E" "
" 4983, " M. Rutherford, "E" "
" 5394, " J. Ross, "D" "
" 5304, " H. McCall, "H" "
" 5482, " E. Wright, "D" "
" 4643, " E. McGuire, "H" "
" 3689, " C. McLeod, "G" "
" 5274, " J. Mackie, "G" "
" 4719, " J. Lawrence, "E" "
" 4603, " D. Brown, "E" "
" 5134, " R. Lightbody, "F" "
" 5163, " J. Allen, "D" "
" 4405, " T. Hanlon, "D" "
" 4025, " J. McNeil, "G" "

TRANSFERS RECEIVED.

From Royal Scots Fusiliers.—Private W. Rastall and posted to "B" Company.

TRANSFER TO UNATTACHED LIST.

Sergeant Chas. Duncan and Sergeant T. Mackenzie for Military Works Department, from 16th March 1897.

TELEGRAPHY CERTIFICATES.

Granted Certificates from Amballa :—
No. 4290, Lance-Corporal J. Duff, "D" Company.
" 3975, " " J. Donnolly, "B" "
" 4621, " " J. White, "C" "

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

Passed for the rank of Sergeant :—
No. 3531, Corporal F. Marks, "H" Company.
" 2765, " J. Murphy, "A" " (*d*).
" 3138, " W. Fawcett, "E" " (*e*).
Passed for the rank of Corporal :—
No. 4637, Lance-Corporal J. Fitchett, "E" Company.
" 5021, " " G. Duncan, "E" "
" 3079, " " A. Wallace, "B" "
" 3553, " " J. Selley "B" "
" 2954, " " J. Wilson, "F" " (*d*),
" 3759, " " A. Peace, "F" " "
" 4232, " " T. Doyle, "G" " "
" 3808, " " J. Allison, "A" " "
" 5219, " " M. Sutherland, "F" " "
(*d*). To be re-examined in subject (*d*). (*e*). To be re-examined in subject (*e*).

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted and restored 2*d*. per diem :—
"A" Company.
No. 2049, Private W. Hunter.
"G" Company.
No. 4037, Private. F. Smith.
Granted and restored 1*d*. per diem :—
"A" Company.
No. 5333, Private P. Hay. | No. 5373, Private T. May.
No. 3859, " J. Keenan. | " 5170, " W. Jamieson.
"B" Company.
No. 5441, Private, J. McIntyre.
"D" Company.
No. 4818, Private J. Lapsley | No. 5198, Private J. Marshall.
"G" Company.
No. 5273, Private J. Campbell. | No. 3738, Private, A. Sutton.
"H" Company.
No. 5304, Private, J. McCall. | No. 5457, Private, J. Morton.

BIRTHS.

TWYCROSS.—At Nowshera, on the 29th April 1897, the wife of Sergeant Twycross of a son—Walter Francis.

DEATHS.

STEWART.—At the Station Hospital, Nowshera on the 8th April 1897, No. 5840, Private J. Stewart, "C" Company (transfer from the Black Watch, Royal Highlanders).

SLIGHTLY MIXED.—"What company dae I belang tae? Weel I'm no richt sure. Ye ken my ain company's 'B,' but thae bein' at Chirat I'm transferred tae 'C,' then agin thae are at Fort Attock and so I m attached tae 'E' and then I'm levin in 'D' Company's bungalow so I'm no richt sure ye ken, and nae winder."

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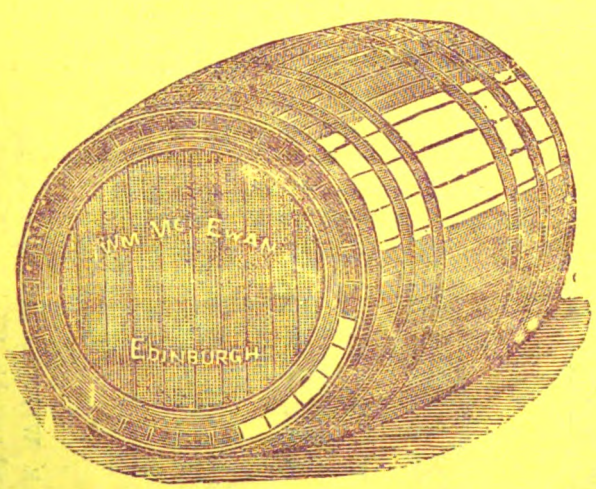

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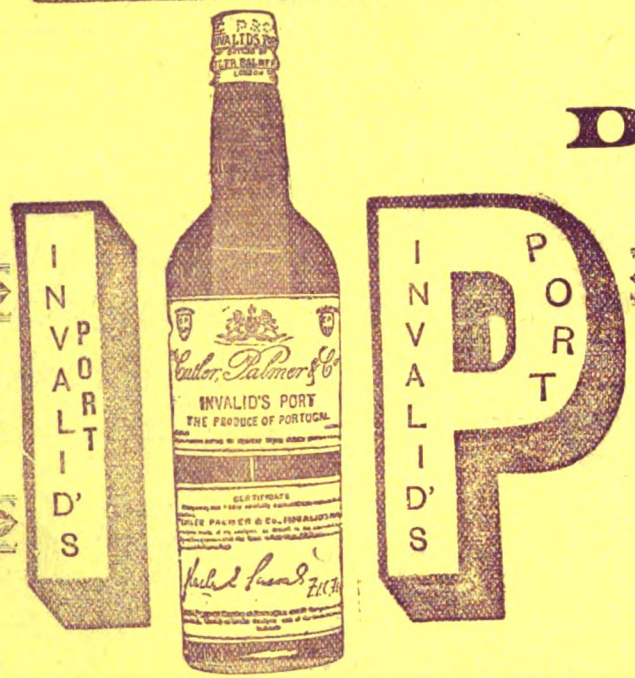

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The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 9—Vol. III. TOCHI VALLEY,—AUGUST 1897. Price, 3 Annas.

SKIRLS

AT present it is a case of utter stagnation with respect to any news. The month of June has so far been remarkably mild in comparison with last year, the thermometer has only registered 111° in the shade against 119° last summer, and in addition there have been some delightfully refreshing breezes at night, whilst the early mornings, just before sunrise, have been decidedly cool, making one sleeping out of doors quite appreciate a blanket. Of course it is early yet to say too much, and the heat at Jacobabad having already registered 126° in the shade, a Punjab summer can still hold its own and our turn may come later on. At any rate it is hot enough to make one feel disinclined for much during the heat of the day. On the 1st of June "all khaki" for guard superseded the kilt, and an extra shelter for the sentry on the magazine has made, No. 2 post more bearable.

* * * * * *

To break the monotony somewhat the "Alert" again sounded about 2-30 in the morning, when it appeared that the sentries on the magazine heard natives stealthily approaching their post, who on being challenged fled. This has so far been the only little excitement and the sound of the "Alert" even is beginning to pall somewhat now.

* * * * * *

After having complained of the dearth of news to be suddenly warned to MOBILISE—the news seems almost too good to be true! The telegram conveying the order was received about 10 A.M., on the 18th June, and the news soon became general. Conflicting rumours of course commenced to circulate in abundance and the precise destination of the battalion was satisfactorily decided in at least half a dozen different places. All officers on leave in India were at once recalled, whilst to Captain Robinson, who was away home for nine months, a telegram was sent and he will no doubt make a record passage in rejoining. Orders were at once issued recalling

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the Chirat and Attock detachments, the former is expected to arrive every day, and the latter will return to head-quarters about the 24th, when it will be relieved by the King's Own Scottish Borderers from Rawalpindi who will send a company to the Fort. In the meantime medical inspection, kit inspection and all the other ills to which battalions for the Field (a big F if you please Mr. Printer) are subject to go merrily, or otherwise, on, and pay-sergeants, orderly-sergeants and orderly-corporals wear a more or less worried look upon their otherwise happy countenances.

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The following day the *Civil and Military Gazette* gave the composition of the force as under :—

General Officer Commanding: General Corrie Bird. Divisional Staff: Assistant Adjutant-General, Major Willcocks, Assistant Quartermaster General, Colonel Nixon, 18th Bengal Lancers; Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, Intelligence, Major Kemball; Field Intelligence Officer, Lieutenant Cockerill, 28th Punjab Infantry; Superintendent Army Signalling, Captain Rawlins, 12th Bengal Cavalry; Principal Medical Officer, Surgeon Captain Carow; Field Engineer, Major Digby, R. E., Assistants—Captain Schreiber and Lieutenant Waghorn; Ordnance Officer, Major C. H. Wilson, R. A.; Chief Commissariat Officer, Major Wingate; Assistant, Lieutenant Rose, 2nd Gurkhas; Divisional Transport Officer, Captain H. James; Assistant, Lieutenant Haag, 18th Hussars; Inspecting Veterinary Officer, Veterinary-Major Rayment; Survey Officer, Lieutenant Pirrie; Provost Marshall, Captain Malcolm, 2nd Gurkhas.

First Brigade :—Commanding: Colonel Egerton, Guides; Deputy Adjutant-General, Captain Watkis; Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Major Wintour; Commissariat Officer, Lieutenant Annesly; Transport Officer, Captain Welby, 18th Hussars; Regimental Commissariat and Transport Officers, Lieutenant Senior, 20th Punjab Infantry; Cox, 11th Bengal Lancers, and Muscroft, 2nd Gurkhas; Veterinary Officer, Veterinary-Lieutenant Hunt. Troops :—Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 1st Sikhs. 1st Punjab Infantry, 33rd Punjab Infantry, one Squadron 1st Punjab Cavalry, 6 guns No. 3 Peshawar Mountain Battery, No. 2 Company Bengal Sappers and Miners.

Second Brigade :—Commanding: General Symons. Staff: Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Captain Walter, Devon Regiment; Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, Major Grover, 2nd Bengal Cavalry; Commissariat Officer, Lieutenant Howell; Transport Officer, Captain Brockman, 5th Bengal Infantry; Regimental Commissariat and Transport Officers, Lieutenant Powell, 23rd Pioneers, Cunningham, 1st Bombay Grenadiers, and Tuson, 16th Lancers; Veterinary Officer, Lieutenant Harris. Troops :—3rd Battalion Rifle Brigade, 14th Sikhs, 6th Bengal Infantry, 25th Punjab Infantry, one Squadron, 1st Punjab Cavalry, 4 guns No. 6 Bombay Mountain Battery.

At present no orders have been received as to the precise destination of the battalion, and the exact date on which we leave Nowshera is not known. The route according to the above source however is *viâ* Khushalgarh, to which place the battalion will train, then across the Indus by a bridge of boats and to Bannu in eight marches. Marching will be of course by night owing to the heat, and these eight days will test the endurance of the battalion to the utmost.

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On the 21st instant the Chirat detachment some 230 strong, marched in, whilst the day following "C" Company returned from Fort Attock. Some difficulty was experienced in finding accommodation for the whole eight companies, but this was eventually overcome by utilising the A. T. A., Theatre and School, as barrack-rooms.

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To harden the men in for the campaign, route marching takes place daily at 4-45 A.M., the battalion returning to quarters about 7; this will continue until orders are received to proceed to the base of operations.

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One feature of the *mobilization* was the anxiety of all to go on service and the state of those rejected by the Medical Officer was pitiful in the extreme. Men on detachment returned at all hours, many giving up lucrative staff appointments to go on field service with the regiment, rejected men, too, were continually going to hospital to "square" the Doctor to pass them "fit," but a very careful selection had to be made and the dejected countenance of those rejected told its own tale. One little band boy sat down o the steps of the hospital bungalow and almost burst into tears because he was told he was too young to go.

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The battalion paraded in field service marching order on Saturday morning, 26th June, for

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inspection by the G. O. C. Commanding the Peshawar District. General Elles at the end of his inspection had the column closed to quarter column and then informed us that we had been selected by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to join the first brigade of the Tochi Field Force to avenge one of the most treacherous attacks made on the frontier for many years.

Under the mask of hospitality the Waziris had attacked a British escort and killed or wounded every European Officer. Our brigade was to be equipped with mule transport which meant that we would have "all the hard work and fighting, should there be any." We were going to serve under Colonel Egerton, one of the finest soldiers on the frontier, and he (General Elles) had no doubt that the regiment would sustain the reputation of the old Ninety-Third.

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The few men remaining at the depôt found the duties for the first day, but a detachment from Peshawar is expected to do duty in Nowshera during our absence. Captain H. de Vallancey has been left in command of the depôt.

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Marching orders were received at almost the last moment and the battalion left Nowshera on the evening of Sunday, the 27th June, in two troop trains, the right half parading at 7-40, the left half at 8-40, double accommodation had been provided in the railway carriages, and everything that could be done for the comfort of the men was attended to, including the providing of ice. Our popular *padre*, the Rev. Mr. Roche, was on the platform to see us off (we wish he could have accompanied us, but although he had made every endeavour and preparation to go with the battalion the powers that be had directed otherwise) as was also the Rev. Mr. Becker, Church of England Chaplain. The pipers of our comrades, the 38th Dogras, played the train out of the station, the tune of "Hieland Laddie" being echoed back by cheers from our own men as the train steamed away towards Attock.

The battalion left Nowshera, 775 strong, several men passed fit having to remain behind on duty, some of whom it is expected will join at Bannu.

One addition was received at Khushalgarh and two at Latammar.

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Khushalgarh was reached the following morning about 8 o'clock by the first train, the left half arriving about two hours later; to reach camp the Indus had to be crossed by a bridge-of-boats, and it was after midday and intensely hot before the last company had seen the baggage from the railway station and had arrived safely in camp. Khushalgarh certainly belies its name and must have been christened somewhat upon Olaf the Red's principle of naming Greenland, for a more unpleasant spot it would be hard to find even on the road to Bannu. The camp was pitched on the high land on the right bank of the Indus, whose waters quenched the thirst of the troops. Here the regiment was completely equipped for summer service, goggles being issued in addition to the padded spine protectors and helmet shades which had been served out before leaving Nowshera, not forgetting a tin pannikin for drinking out of, worn slung on the water bottle strap. Now fully equipped the regiment looked very serviceable and would have no doubt caused no little commotion could it have been transported to the Metropolis and have suddenly made its appearance in the streets of London during the Jubilee Celebrations.

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The battalion left the same evening (28th June) for Gambat, the first rest-camp, and throughout the route the marches took place during the night, the troops resting during the heat of the day. The heat throughout was intense, the temperature in the tents when the sun was up registering as much as 114° at Banda, making sleep almost impossible, except perhaps for an hour or so during the early morning before sunrise, and this was only practicable on the shorter marches when the battalion arrived in

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camp at an early hour. The camps and distances differed slightly from the published route book and the total distance was only slightly over 110 miles instead of 113. The average mileage per day was just under sixteen, quite enough in the heat of summer and carying 100 rounds of ball ammunition. Before reaching Bannu two poor fellows succumbed to the heat and hardships, both dying from exhaustion. The country throughout which the battalion marched, except at Kohat and Bannu, was bare and most inhospitable and a more desolate region it would, perhaps, be difficult to find throughout the whole of India. Except at the two above-named places water too was scarce and, in some instances, the supply had to be brought to camp from a distance of three or four miles. Kohat at which place we arrived on the 30th June, appeared to be a most fertile cantonment, quite an oasis in the desert in fact, and is an example of the British occupation of an almost desert country. Kohat is the head-quarters of the Punjab Cavalry and is only three marches south from Nowshera, through the Jowaki country; the road, however, is an indifferent one and the marches long.

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The battalion reached Bannu, also known by the name of Edwardesabad, on the morning of the 7th June, after a most trying march of nineteen miles. This cantonment like that of Kohat is a most fertile one and the camp was pitched upon delightfully green grass between streams of running water in which the troops revelled, and got rid of some of the dust and dirt of many days accumulation. The following morning the 3rd Rifle Brigade, who had been travelling along the road forty-eight hours behind us, but who had gained a day owing to our halt on the 6th June at Latummur, also arrived and were encamped near us. The same morning the battalion paraded for inspection by General Symons —our own Brigadier, General Egerton, being away to Datta Khel—and turned out very well. After riding round the ranks the General made a short speech, amongst other things regretting we were not in his brigade and the companies then marched to private parades and dismissed. Bannu appeared to be a large cantonment and being the base of operations for the present campaign is a place of no small importance. It contains a large mud fort garrisoned by some of the Native Infantry and large Commissariat and other stores. The 25th Punjab Infantry are at present in garrison, whilst some Bengal Sappers and Miners and the 6th Bengal Light Infantry are also encamped. As at Kohat fruit, in the shape of melons, grapes and peaches, was very plentiful, but the vendors all seemed to have a a most exalted idea of the value of their commodities and charged accordingly.

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The battalion left Bannu and crossed the frontier into Waziristan on the morning of the 9th July, marching out about 4 A.M. The march was to the fortified post at Saidgi, a distance of about sixteen miles, and proved a very trying one, it being late in the morning before camp was reached. There were many cases of heat apoplexy and two resulted fatally, the Sergeant-Major and a private dying in the afternoon. About four o'clock a heavy storm of rain came on and wetted everything, but it was a very welcome shower: in the evening the double funeral took place, the Colonel and all the officers attending, Major Campbell read the burial service. Owing to the rain the battalion halted the following day, 10th July, to allow the tents, &c., to dry and it was not till the next morning that the march was continued to the next post Idak, and from thence to Miran Shah. Here the Tochi Valley was again entered and the march from Miran Shah to Boya was through the bed of the Tochi river which had to be forded about twenty times. About a fortnight previously the river had been in flood and had washed away the bridge at Boya which was being repaired as we passed, though it was still incomplete. As the marching was continued up the Tochi the air became much cooler and the first night at Datta Khel, which was reached on the 14th July, was quite cool and serge clothing necessary after "Retreat."

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Arrived at Datta Khel the battalion joined the 1st Brigade, the 1st Sikhs, 1st Punjab Infantry, and 33rd Punjab Infantry being already there together with a squadron of the 1st Punjab Cavalry. No. 6 Bombay Mountain Battery was also in garrison but belongs to the 2nd Brigade. On the 18th No. 3, Peshawar Mountain Battery arrived together with the Rifle Brigade, and on the following day No. 2 Company Bengal Sappers and Miners came in, making General Egerton's command complete.

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On the 17th all the troops at Datta Khel paraded for inspection by the General Officer Commanding. The battalion paraded at 7 A.M. and formed up about 7-30, taking the right of the infantry line, the 1st Sikhs being next, then the 1st Punjab Infantry, the 33rd being on the left. The 1st Punjab Cavalry and No. 6 Bombay Mountain Battery were on our right. There were about 2,000 troops on parade. General Bird was received by the usual salute, the combined native pipers playing a few bars of the "Garb of old Gaul." The General then inspected the various regiments, the pipers of the different corps playing alternately as he passed. After the inspection three native officers of the 1st Sikhs and the Sergeant-Major of the Mountain Battery were called to the front, and a telegram from the Governor-General in Council was read awarding the 3rd Class of the Order of Merit to them for distinguished bravery at the affair at Maizar on the 10th June last, rewards for the rank and file were to follow afterwards. The message was interpreted to the native troops, and the regiment then marched past in column of route and returned to camp before 9 A.M.

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During our sojourn in Datta Khel the chief occupation has been building sangars for occupation by our outlying picquets, and duty has been somewhat heavy with only "three nights in bed." On the 16th July "D" Company paraded at 5 A.M. and marched to the Spin Chilla Kotal to protect the advance of a convoy arriving during the day; they returned to barracks about seven in the evening; on the 19th July "C" Company were detailed for the same duty. Daily bathing parades under an escort of one company armed and equipped have also taken place, the river being about two or three miles from camp.

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On the 19th July all preparations were made for the advance towards Sheranni and Maizar which was ordered for the following day.

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On the 20th July the advance took place from Datta Khel towards Sheranni, one of the leading villages instrumental in the attack on the Political Officer's escort on the 10th June last, and which was the first village ordered to be destroyed. Except for the 33rd Punjab Infantry, who were left at Datta Khel and did not advance until four days later, the 1st Brigade was complete. The battalion was early astir, no reveillé sounding, but every one being roused and the tents packed soon after one o'clock. A picquet from each company lined the walls from this hour, as it was rumoured that the enemy had come down the valley and intended marching past us during the night in the direction of Boya to harass our line of communication. If this was the case they gave Datta Khel a wide berth as our cavalry were out reconnoitring during the whole night without coming in touch with them. Soon after 5 A.M., the battalion fell in and, with the right half under Major Campbell as an advanced guard, marched to Sheranni. "A" Company was in front and four friendly Waziris showed the way; the Sappers and Miners were also with the advanced guard and following the left half battalion came No. 3, Peshawar Mountain Battery, the 1st Sikhs and 1st Punjab Infantry, a squadron of the 1st Punjab Cavalry reconnoitred our front and flank. A half battalion of the Rifle Brigade also accompanied the advance but returned the same night with the extra transport to Datta Khel.

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Preceded by scouts of the cavalry and after passing a few friendly villages (whose inhabitants in the retreat from Maizar had assisted in bringing in the dead and wounded and thus received the reward of virtue), the advanced guard reached a spot about 800 yards distant from and com-

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manding the Sheranni village, which was immediately entered by the cavalry and as expected found to be deserted. A consultation of the Staff was immediately held under some trees east of the village and the advance guard forming into column facing north, piled arms and awaited orders.

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About mid-day the whole brigade had arrived on the ground selected for a camp, a place about a mile south-east of Sherani (which it overlooked) and from which communication could be carried on with Datta Khel by helio and lamp signalling, The brigade having occupied the ground allotted it, the advanced guard retired, tents were pitched and measures were at once taken to put the camp in a state of defence. This was no easy matter as the ground selected was very uneven and intersected with nullahs, and it was nearly dark before low walls sufficient to prevent the camp from being rushed had been built round it.

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During the afternoon "B" Company under Lieutenant Graham had gone to Sheranni as a covering party to the Sappers who were to search the village previous to demolishing it. A large stock of *bhusa* was found in the village and there was promise of a plentiful wood supply when its demolition commenced, timber in some places ornamented by rude carving being plentifully used in the construction of its houses. "B" Company returned to camp about six in the evening, several men bringing with them small mementoes of their visit, Lieutenant Graham being fortunate enough to find an old *talwar* and shield in the roof of one of the houses entered. The Sappers were much more lucky in this respect than ourselves owing, perhaps, to their experience and secured many quaintly ornamented *jezails*, knives and other curiosities.

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During this night the battalion had its first experience of being "sniped," as several shots were fired into camp between the hours of eleven and midnight. The signallers' lamps apparently attracted the enemy's attention as these shots were directed at the lights though with very indifferent success. The shots were replied to by our men and for a short time there was quite a fusilade from the right picquet, a couple of companies turned out equipped, and the artillery fired a couple of star shells which lighted up the whole front for a considerable distance and evidently had the desired effect, as the sniping immediately ceased and for the remainder of the night it was quite quiet; and those who could and were not on duty enjoyed a well deserved rest till four o'clock when the walls were lined until reveillé.

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On the following day the battalion shifted its camp a distance of about four hundred yards, to a more compact and suitable site than that occupied on the previous day. This entailed a whole day's hard work building a stone wall and otherwise strengthening the camp, which was capitally situated and well worth the labour bestowed upon it. It was nearly dark, however, before the last tent had been pitched and there was much left to be done even after this, which had to be left until the following day.

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The next few days were occupied chiefly in fatigues, a party of a hundred men being detailed daily from each regiment to assist the Sappers in demolishing the village of Sheranni. Others were employed in carrying wood from the village to the Commissariat for fuel and there were innumerable things to be attended to in camp which kept every one busily employed until just on "retreat." On Friday, 23rd July, Sheranni, except for a few isolated towers which have been left standing for some particular purpose, had almost ceased to exist, the Sappers blowing up what the troops had not been able to demolish with pick and shovel. These consisted chiefly of towers used as store-places for grain and for observation and seem peculiar to this part of the country. Although stones in this district are as plentiful as peas, all of the Waziri villages that we have passed have been composed chiefly of mud and Sheranni was no exception to the rule, large stones were, however, used in the foundations of the buildings and the mud work in places was almost as hard as cement. Had the enemy cared to have occupied the village in force it would

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have taken no little trouble to have dislodged them, but they are naturally a cowardly race and have no doubt thought discretion the better part of valour and a retirement to their hill fortresses the better policy.

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On the 22nd July the G. O. C., accompanied by our own Brigadier, taking "G" Company of ours together with a company from each of the Native Regiments and some sowars and guns went to the scene of the outrage at Maizar; the visit was merely a reconnaisance in force and the troops returned in the afternoon without having seen a single Waziri. The troops halted near where Colonel Bunny and his officers were attacked and skeletons of mules and horses strewn about the ground pointed out the place where the baggage animals had stampeded and been slaughtered when the fight commenced. A bottle of English beer was found in one of the horses together with Colonel Bunny's riding whip, a box and other mournful mementoes of the outrage.

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On the 23rd another reconnaisance in force took place across the river in a north-westerly direction. "E" and "F" Companies paraded before four in the morning and returned about mid-day, some native troops were also out at an earlier hour and had a slight brush with the enemy.

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Captain Sydney Robinson was the first to join us from home leave, he arriving in Camp Datta Khel the day before the 1st Brigade advance on Sheranni. Lieutenants Campbell and Newall also came from home at the same time but were detained to march with our first reinforcements from Bannu which arrived at Camp Sheranni on the 21st, about 100 strong, a further party of 55 arrived on the 25th, thus leaving only about 30 men still at Bannu, some of whom will no doubt join at an early date.

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Although there has been very little excitement here in advance, several convoys travelling from post to post on the line of communication have been attacked and looted and the so-called friendly tribesmen are suspected by those who should know.

Lieutenant A. H. Maclean, who joined at Bannu from leave, has been appointed Assistant Provost Marshal of the 1st Brigade, whilst Lieutenant McCanalish is Brigade Signalling Officer.

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Since arrival in Camp Sheranni the signallers have been having a busy time "Helio" or "Lamp" working day and night in communication with Datta Khel, there being no telegraph line beyond that place.

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On the 26th the whole of the 1st Brigade advanced on Maizar, parading at daybreak. Breakfasts were eaten before starting and the dinner taken out and cooked on the ground. Only six companies of the battalion went out, two being left to guard the camp. The advance, a distance of about two miles, was made very slowly it being nearly 8 o'clock before the scene of the treachery of the 10th June was reached; this proved to be a very picturesque spot in comparison with the bare country around, and was no doubt a fertile place until deserted by its inhabitants; even at the present time the crops appear to have been quite recently cared for and no doubt our mobile opponents have paid it regular visits up to within the last few days.

After the village had been thoroughly reconnoitred and the 1st Sikhs had thrown out their outposts about a mile to the westward, across the Shawal Algad river, the transport mules were brought up, and whilst these were busily loaded with bhusa the troops fell out and partook of what they had in their haversacks washed down by tea which had been quickly got ready by the ever-busy cooks. After this fatigue parties fell in by companies and taking picks, shovels, axes and crowbars quickly fell to work demolishing the mud walls of the ill-fated village, this continued for about three hours when dinners were served. After dinner the work continued and what might have been a serious accident happened to Sergeant MacDonald, "A" Company, who was buried under the *débris* of a house for about twenty minutes before he could

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be extricated. He was very severely bruised, but fortunately his injuries were not serious and he will no doubt soon be about again. The Sappers and Miners completed with gun-cotton and dynamite what the fatigue parties had commenced, and the latter begrimed with dust and dirt had a well-earned wash in the river Shawal before falling in to return to camp. The retirement commenced before about 4 o'clock, the trees under which the British Officers had been shot being demolished together with the village, so that all traces of the place might in time vanish.

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During the day General Egerton and Staff, with an escort of the 1st Punjab Cavalry, made a reconnaissance towards Dotoi, a place about four miles further up the Tochi and about one mile from the Afghan border. A single Waziri was shot by a Sowar of the escort, but this was the only result.

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The following day the Brigade again marched to Maizar to complete the work of the previous day, only four companies of the battalion accompanied the advance and the column which left at 8 A.M. returned before 3 P.M ; the day was a very hot one, the threatening clouds of the few preceding days which had tended to cool the atmosphere having blown away.

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The work of the next day, Wednesday, 28th, took the shape of a reconnaissance in force to Dotoi and resulted in some little excitement for "B" Company who formed the rear guard. The battalion of six companies, two remaining in as usual as a camp guard, left quarters at 7-30 and marching through Maizar, and across the Algad once and the Tochi twice, reached Dotoi by about 1 o'clock. Here the rear guard climbed some heights to the south-east of the village to guard the flank. Upon reaching the crest of the hill to be occupied a party of the enemy about 800 yards away were seen firing at a picquet of the 33rd Punjab Infantry who were below them and almost immediately decamping up a nullah. Captain Robinson with a few picked men at once moved forward along a ridge to, if possible, intercept them, but the Waziris made good use of their time, and the ground being steep and broken and wooded with low holly bushes, which seem to flourish in the higher altitudes of these hills, could not be followed for any distance. The enemy were still hovering about in the vicinity when the rear guard was withdrawn just after 2 o'clock, but could not be enticed into again firing, and the column returned by the river-bed reaching camp about 7.

On the march back the Tochi river had to be crossed several times and caused no little impediment to troops the tide being rapid and the water coming up almost to the men's waists in the narrower channels of the river. A comforting issue of commissariat rum and a holiday on the following day was, however, some recompense for the day's work. Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh commanded the column.

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The 3rd Rifle Brigade arrived from Datta Khel on the 27th and are at present attached to the 1st Brigade which must now number over 4,000 men. They lost a rifle during their first night's stay in camp. Our strength at present is 715 men with only about 25 in hospital and additions are daily expected from Bannu, the men left there with few exceptions only being detained on account of want of transport. With their arrival we shall be able to put over 700 bayonets in the field and this is not bad considering we only left Nowshera 775 strong.

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On the 30th the destruction of the Maizar villages by the 1st Brigade continued. The Rifles this day were sent forward on a reconnaissance up the Shawal Nullah for several miles and secured a prisoner, the brigade returned to camp early in the afternoon. Only five companies of the battalion were out.

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With the arrival from Nowshera of Sergeant J. Gunn who was left in charge of the Orderly-room when we left, comes news of what has been passing there during our absence. The weather we hear, is still very cool for summer, and the 120 men left at the depôt

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have as much as they can do to find all the duties, more especially now with the 38th Dogras (who found sentries for the magazine post) away to the Malakand. Since the 27th June several men have passed the doctor as fit for service, but it is hardly likely they will be sent to join us here owing to the difficulty that would be experienced in bringing them from Khushalgarh to Bannu. Quarter-Master Sergeant (O. R. S.) J. McIntosh has rejoined from the School of Musketry, Changla Gali, where he was officiating as Sergeant-Major, but remains at the depôt for duty much to his disappointment.

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On the evening of the 28th news of the Malakand rising reached us, and it was with feelings of regret that we heard of so much work on hand within only a few days' march from Nowshera and our almost banishment amongst the cowardly Waziris. It is only to be hoped that the news may travel fast, and that the enemy emulating the deeds of their Swat brethren may rise to a man and give us the opportunity for which we have overcome so many difficulties and have borne so many hardships.

There was a young man at Bannu,
Who swore no more marches he'd do.
And he did'nt, that's flat,
He took cart, mule, or tat,
Now who do you think it was? who!

As we Marched up to Tochi, O!

AIR—"THE DAY WE WENT TAE ROTHESAY, O!"

'Tis nearly forty years ago
Since the 93rd met wi' the foe,
But now we've got a chance to show
What we can do in the Tochi, O!
We've done our twenty miles before,
We can do the same again and more,
Tho' our legs be tired, and our feet be sore
Upon the march to Tochi, O!

CHORUS.—Then cheer, boys, cheer, and shout "hurroo,"
And give a cheer for the Rifles, too,
And we'll let all see what we can do
When we get up to Tochi, O!

The massacre near Datta Khel,
Will be avenged by us right well,
And we'll put one in for those who fell,
While marching thro' the Tochi, O!
To avenge our officers we'll go
And let the wild Waziri know,
That there's a firm called "John Bull and Co.,"
Going to trade in Tochi, O!

CHORUS.—Then cheer, boys, cheer, etc.

In the Tochi Valley now are we,
And Waziris in plenty we shall see,
"And we'll slaughter them a'," said the "9 and 3"
As we march thro' the Tochi, O!
The foe by dozens we will kill,
And their blood by gallons we will spill,
And we'll polish the *sub chiz* off until
There's not one left in Tochi, O!

CHORUS.—Then cheer, boys, cheer, etc.

To celebrate the Jubilee,
With me you doubtless will agree
Her Majesty to you and me
Should give a star for Tochi, O!
For during the day the sun was strong,
And then at night the march was long,
And a star would look splendid beside a "gong"
Inscribed with the name of Tochi, O!

CHORUS.—Then cheer, boys, cheer, etc.

To Africa, lately, some troops were sent,
But they didn't live thirty in a tent
And it wasn't as hot as when *we* went
Marching up to Tochi, O!
When they returned the powers that be
At the War Office thought fit to see
To grant a star for Ashanti
So we should get one for Tochi, O!

CHORUS.—Then cheer, boys, cheer, etc.

PLUNGER.

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Tae the Auld Wife.

—o—

MY DEAR MITHER,

Hoo tae break the news tae ye I dinna richt ken.

Afore ye read further mither, jist brace yersel up tae hear the worst, and at the same time mak up yer mind no tae be surprised, gin ye dinna hear frae me for a guid long time.

Oor regiment is for the front; I'm no jokin, mither, for as sure as death, we're on the war-path noo,' as we left Nowshera on the 27th o' the month.

It wis an awfu' touchin sicht tae see the men pairtin wi' their pets, parrots, dogs and boozin chums, and the instructions they left behind were maist interestin as weel as instructive.

"Noo Wullie, mind ye dinna learn it ony sweer words for I want tae send it hame tae ma sister" "Deed Sandy and gin it's for your sister I'll treat it as I wud ma ain, bit whit can it say." "Oh it says" Pretty Polly, pretty dear, a' the wey frae Mian Mir," and "Whit oh! Polly, who are you," it's a fine speakin bird and I hinna hed it twa year yet." "A' richt Sandy, I'll treat it fine and learn it twa—three things mair." "Weel guid-bye Wullie and whan I come back we'll drink my haird-lying money thegither." An so they pairted mither, parrot and boozin-chum left behind, eh! bit it wis an awful wrench.

The instructions aboot the dogs were mair o' a family nature, bit a' were gi'en and ta'en in guid faith. I mun tell ye aboot the Doctor's inspection, it wis a sicht waur than a fitba' match, we got punched aboot, richt and left, and then the Doctor took a telescoop or some sich thing and tell't us tae breathe and asked us a manner o' questions and gin a man hed a corn, wart or bunion on his big toe he wis rejected.

Then mither the preparations that were made for active service were somethin' gran. Every ither meenit we were parading, yin meenit for goggles, then shades for the helmet, then spine protectors, then the bayonets hed tae be sharpit, and a' the time every yin wis knockin' aboot fair daft like. Oh! it's a gran' thing active service.

Frae Nowshera mither we trained as far as a place ca'ed Khushalgahr, and frae there we mairched frae camp tae camp till we reached Datta Khel, a place nestlin' in a circle o' mountains whaur oor brigade assembles. I forgot tae tell ye mither that we are in the first brigade an' oor address gin ye wish tae send me a bit screed is—

93rd Highlanders,
1st Brigade,
Tochi Field Force; an'

mither gin ye dae send me a word, I micht-mention that tobbacco is awfu' dear here, deed the prices the Coffeeshop-keeper charges is some thin' awfu'.

Cheese, an min ye, no sae extra guid, is twa rupees a pun, in fact a' things are about double their richt price, and I'm gey dootful gin I'll hae eneuch tae pay for the postage o' this.

Ye'll may be no ken that on active service nae yin's compelled tae shave, an' nae doot ye'll believe me whan I tell ye there's some awfu' sichts knockin aroun; hoosomeever I'll better no say ower muckle on that subject as I'm no exactly a beauty mysel.

I'm awfu' sorry tae tell ye that tho' oor expedition is barely stairtit we hae hed the misfortune tae lose fower men a'ready, and amang the number oor Sairgint-Major; puir chap, weel tho' he desairved his promotion, he wisna fated lang tae enjoy it, he wis struck doon wi heat apoplexy on the mairch frae Bannu tae Saidgi whan jist in sicht o' camp, and never regained consciousness. Noo mither I'll hae tae conclude as my cannle's rin oot. Wi best love tae Tibbie Rob and the bairns.

Believe me,
Your lovin' son,
JOCK.

P.S.—Tell Tibbie I'll no hae ma photos ta'en, till ma whiskers grow.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it].

THAT it's no been sae het up tae the present this year as last.

That it's a guid job tae.

That it's getting quite used tae hear the "Alert" sound.

That it's getting rather monotonous hearin' it sae often.

That it thocht it wis gaein tae hav' a nice quiet simmer.

That it's hopes wis dashed tae the ground on the 18th ultimo.

That it didna think the news could be true at first.

That it believes anither distinguished corps made ower sure o'gaein.

That it'll no forget the Diamond Jubilee year in a hurry.

That route marching at fower in the morning wis its holiday.

That the corporals wis vera loyal.

That it disna onderstand why every ane wis sae anxious tae gae on service.

That an expedition in the middle o'simmer 'll no be a picnic.

That the General made a gran' speach.

That every possible care is gaein tae be taen wi' the troops.

That it'll hae its photo taen when it comes back, in goggles, shade and a' complete.

That it's hard lines its ain padre canna get alang wi' his reg'ment.

That it hopes tae see him in the Tochi a' the same ane o'these days.

That it will be vera quiet at the Depie gin the reg'ments awa.

That it wis no very quiet for the last week.

That the canteen funds must be weel in credit.

That it disna think there'll be mony teetotalers in the reg'ment until they're awa.

That marching orders wis nae received ontil the last moment.

That it looked a real fechtin' soldier marchin' awa wi' its broon straps and currie powther gaiters.

That a hunner roonds o'ammunition is nae licht weight tae mairch wi.

That the Sairgints appreciated Khairabad.

That mebbe they'll nae be sorry tae be back there agin.

That the journey in the train wis nice and cool.

That Khushalgarh wis a barren spot.

That ither rest camps wis if onything waur.

That ane puir chap succumbed tae the first march.

That it hopes the Tochi is no as unpropeetious a country as it is marchin' thro'.

That it's ower het under an E. P. tent, but it disna ken what it'll be like under a general service ane.

That it wis a maist awfu' mairch frae Bannu to Saidgi

That the hospital wis like a slaucherhoose.

That so wis some o' the tents.

That twa' funerals in one nicht wis owre mony.

That the puir Sairgint-Major body wis nae spared lang tae wear the croon.

That the ither mairches wis no sae bad.

That it wis gey cool the first nicht in Datta Khel.

That it hed a guid washing out wi the rain in nearly every camp after crossing the frontier.

That there are some awfu' roads in Waziristan.

That it thinks the het o' the sun must hae hed some effect on its brain.

That there are some owre Hieland things said o' times that unfortunately it canna remember ony o' them.

That it is gey difficult tae get the "Thin Yin" ready for printing the noo.

That it has had a brush wi' the enemy.

That a man wis wounded ane nicht.

That it hears o' a certain corporal wha laced up his tent when the sniping commenced tae keep oot the bullets.

That the temperature has registered 105° in the tents at Sheranni.

That the "Bannu Irregulars" are gradually arriving,

That there seem tae be owre mainy field officers on the mairch.

While marching from Lachi to Banda
A cart broke down in the sand—a
When in charge of our "Guy"
Who feared he'd to lie,
Near Waziris, reported at hand—a.

Why is the expedition like Homocea? Because (it) touches (Tochis) the spot!

Somebody kick him, please! (ED.)

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My leave in 1896.

(Concluded).

—o—

We now thought we had worked out this bit of ground and so made a move to another part of the nullah on the 5th September, crossing a very nasty bridge of two planks without a hand-rail on the way. The stream below was running very fast, and it would have been no joke to have fallen in. My servant went across on all fours, but I was too proud, and walked over it, though I am bound to say I was uncommonly glad when I got across. I was now at the mouth of a nullah into which I was told no sahib had ever been and the ibex were simply jostling each other, and we went after them the next morning into one of the most desolate places I have ever seen. It was a good four hours' steady climb before we got to the camping-ground—an open space at the foot of a glacier. We had had to carry wood up for cooking as none was to be found there and we also brought a cow up. Next morning we started early in pursuit of the six large ibex supposed to be in the nullah and before long some of my men spotted them. They were supposed to be in a place where they could not possibly get away from, as the men declared they would not face the fresh snow they would have to cross to get over the heights into the nullahs beyond. So confident of this were the local men that they would not take any precautions on approaching the ibex, but walked in the open and made a fearful row, shouting to the men on the hill above who were watching the herd, with the result that four ibex, three being good ones, broke away across the snow, the natives declared they would never cross, and disappeared. We were rather afraid this was an end of all sport for the day when we spotted two ibex about a mile away standing on a small pinnacle of rock about a mile away. After careful reconnaissance we found they were in a place quite inaccessible for human beings and were safe as long as they stayed there. Unfortunately for them, they did not know this, and abandoned their rock when they got the wind of a man who was trying to work round them, and came galloping straight at me. Something or other alarmed them on the way and they turned to the right and went down the bottom of the valley to my left, so I shifted into a fairly comfortable position with my back against a stone, and somewhat to my surprise bowled over both of them. The delight of the old villager, who had induced me to come up this nullah, was intense, and he bolted over at once, as hard as he could lay legs to the ground, to cut the throats of the ibex before they died. It took me four times as long to get to the place. We then returned in state to the camp over some very rough ground on which I wore out my last pair of grass shoes and had to send on to camp for more. The horns measured 40 and 37 inches. Next morning I moved off to another nullah, where I arrived two days later, and spent the first afternoon visiting a hot spring about a mile from my camp. The water came out of a small hole not five yards from a stream of ice-cold water and was hotter than I cared to put my hand in. Next morning I worked all round this nullah but saw nothing but females and young ibex, so had no shooting. I had now to make a move if I wanted to shoot any more kinds of game, and as I wished for as much variety as possible, I started on the 11th September for fresh ground to look for shapoo, a kind of wild sheep, and by doing double marches crossed the Indus again on the 14th and arrived on the shapoo ground on the 16th. About five o'clock that night we saw about half a dozen shapoo playing and fighting on the opposite hill, but as there was no chance of getting to them by daylight we had to leave them alone.

Shapoo prefer a very different country to ibex. The hills on this place were lower and gently sloping, not the precipitous sort of places I had been accustomed to. My shikari said, shapoo were devils. They do not appear to lie down and sleep in the middle of the day, but are always wakeful, always feeding and on the move, and when once frightened will go for miles. If you disturb ibex in the morning you may very likely get another chance at them in the afternoon, but with shapoo never. The first day I went after them I saw nothing, but the second day I was more fortunate. About an hour after

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leaving camp, we suddenly spotted a flock of shapoo in a nice little hollow about 500 yards off. There was one little open space to get across and then the stalking would be simple. We cautiously crawled across this open bit and were congratulating ourselves on having succeeded in doing so unobserved, when to our disgust we saw the shapoo galloping away up the hill, It was useless to think of going after them, so we moved off another direction and very soon my shikari spotted two old rams together. He tried to point them out to me, but I could not see them anyhow. The only way of getting at them was by crawling up the bed of a stream in the open, and it was a very unpleasant experience as the water was very cold and the stones sharp. After 50 or 60 yards of this we were able to stand up and without much more difficulty got to a place within about 80 yards of the shapoo.

One was feeding away from me and the other, which was a little nearer, was lying down. I fancied the latter had the better horns, but I could not see him very clearly, so waited. In a minute or so the first shapoo turned broadside on to me and immediately saw or suspected something. I was standing on the shikari's leg as I could not get a foothold on anything else and had not much time to aim, but I certainly ought to have hit the brute at the distance he was. I fired clear over him and away he went over the crest of the hill. The other one was not so lucky, as I bowled him over as he galloped down the hill with my left barrel. His horns measure 28½ inches which, for that part of the country, is considered good, though in Ladakh they are got with much better beads.

A. S.

While resting at camp Datta Khel
The rain poured down like—well
"It's an ill wind"; but lor!
You know that old saw,
The rum was the good that befell.

The cause of the present Expedition against the Waziris.

—o—

THE ACTION AT MAIZAR.

Possibly some of our readers may not be quite aware of the reasons which have brought the regiment up here. The country of Waziristan had been a sort of no man's land for a long time, we claimed jurisdiction over parts of it and the Afghans over part, and it was not until Sir Mortimer Durand's Mission to Kabul that a frontier was determined on, and marked out. One of the boundary pillars most of us saw just above the village of Dotoi when we marched there on the 28th. Just below this were to be seen the remains of the entrenchments of our present Brigadier-General's camp when he was up here with a column in the beginning of 1895, during the last Waziristan campaign.

Since that time there has always been a portion of the Punjab Frontier Force quartered in the valley, the most advanced post being Datta Khel. The Madda Khel, a small sect of Waziris, had frequently given trouble to the authorities and finally murdered one Honda Ram, a native official under Government. For this reason a fine was imposed on them and it was decided to place a detachment of native levies amongst them. It was to arrange for the collection of the fine and to fix the site of the levy post that the Political Officer left Datta Khel on the 10th June. What happened on that day is recounted below in the despatches of Lieutenant-Colonel Gray, commanding 1st Punjab Infantry, now in our brigade.

The difficulties of the retreat over the broken ground between Maizar and here we can all appreciate after having seen the ground over which it was conducted, and no praise can be too great for those native officers, non-commissioned officers and men who took part in it, carrying the bodies of the British officers and their wounded with them and falling back under a heavy fire from a constantly increasing foe, with perfect regularity and steadiness. The advance of the reinforcement is also a great achievement when we consider what the heat of

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that June afternoon must have been and the pace at which they moved. The death of the Officers, British and Native, is a circumstance which all must deplore, but the manner in which the survivors behaved under the most trying circumstances must be a source of pride to all who have the honour to wear the Queen's uniform.

THE OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

The Right Hon'ble the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council directs the publication of the subjoined letter from the Adjutant-General in India, submitting, under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, reports from Lieutenant-Colonel W. duG. Gray, Commanding the Troops in the Tochi Valley, relating to the attack made by Madda Khels on the Political Officer's Escort at Maizar on the 10th June 1897. These reports are to be regarded as despatches.

The Governor-General in Council entirely concurs with His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in his appreciation of the gallantry and devotion of the British officers and of the coolness, bravery and discipline of all ranks when deprived of their leaders and compelled to retire under the most difficult conditions. The conduct of both officers and men on this trying occasion was worthy of the best traditions of the Punjab Frontier Force, and will add to the high reputation for soldierlike conduct which the Force has ever enjoyed.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S LETTER.

From—The Adjutant-General in India, To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department :—

I have the honor, by direction of the Commander-in Chief, to forward the enclosed letters from Lieutenant Colonel W. duG. Gray, Commanding Tochi Valley Troops, reporting on the attack on the Political Officer's Escort at Maizar on the 10th June 1897. 2. His Excellency feels assured that there can be but one opinion a regards the behaviour of all ranks after the attack commenced. The report describes in graphic language the gallantry and devoted examples of the British officers who, though wounded continued to direct the withdrawal of the force until incapacitated by their injuries, the coolness and heroic conduct of the native officers, non-commissioned officers and men, the determined stand at the garden wall, where those who fell gave their lives to cover the withdrawal of their wounded comrades; and the admirable discipline exhibited in the deliberate and systematic withdrawal of the force, carried out as it was under a heavy fire and under most trying circumstances. These are some of the leading characteristics of the combat, and it is with a deep sense of satisfaction that His Excellency submits this record of a gallant deed of arms, second to none in the annals of the Indian Army 3. The march performed by the reinforcements from Datta Khel, who traversed a distance of 9 miles in an hour and a half under the burning sun of a June afternoon shows the stamina and soldierlike spirit of the party and deserves marked commendation. 4. His Excellency desires also to express his hearty concurrence in remarks made by Lieutenant-Colonel Gray on the valuable assistance rendered to the troops by Mr. Gee, Political Officer, during the retirement. 5. The staunchness and devotion of the whole force, and particularly the excellent conduct of the native officers when thrown on their own resources, are worthy of the highest praise; and while deploring the loss so many brave soldiers, it is with a deep sense of admiration and appreciation of their conduct that His Excellency directs the submission of these reports, with a strong recommendation that they may be regarded as despatches and published under the orders of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council.

No. 230, " Disturbances, " dated Datta Khel, the 16th June, 1897.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. Du G. Gray, Commanding Tochi Valley Troops, to the Assistant Adjutant-General Punjab Frontier Force.

I have the honour to submit the following report on he occurrences of the 10th instant.

An escort consisting of 12 sabres, 1st Punjab Cavalry two guns, No. 6 Bombay Mountain Battery, 200 rifles, 1st Sikhs, and 100 rifles, 1st Punjab Infantry, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Bunny, accompanied Mr. Gee, Political Officer, to one of the Maizar villages, Mr. Gee's object in going there was partly to discuss with the tribesmen the realisation of a fine, but mainly to select a site for a levy post.

Each Infantry soldier carried 22 rounds in pouch and there were altogether 10 boxes of ammunition in reserve.

Captain Browne, R.A., and Lieutenant Cruikshank R.A. accompanied the guns. Lieutenant Higginson. the 1st Sikhs, and Lieutenant Seton Browne, the 1st Punjab Infantry, Surgeon-Captain Cassidy, also accompanied the party.

Maizar is a group of villages, 12 miles from Datta Khel camp, situated on the right banks of the Shawal and Tochi at the junction of those two rivers and on the Bannu-Ghazni road. It does not appear on the map as Maizar, but there are some names of villages (Khaji Khel, Dilpural, &c.) entered on the site. These names however, seem to be incorrect. The village by which the treacherous attack began is probably that shown as Dilpural in the map. The road from Datta Khel camp to Maizar passes close to Sheranni.

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Maizar was reached at 9-30 a.m. The Maliks, who were believed* to be perfectly friendly and loyal, pointed out a spot under some trees, about 100 yards from a Drepilari village, for the force to halt. It will be seen that there are more villages to the south and east of the halting-place at a distance of 200 to 400 yards. The guns had been placed quite close to a garden of the first mentioned village. Guards were posted. Arms were not piled by Infantry. Directly after arrival, Mr. Gee with Captain Browne, R.A., and Lieutenant Higginson, visited Dctoi (a village a few miles further up the Tochi), escorted by the 1st Punjab Cavalry sowars and accompanied by Maliks. They returned at 11-30 a.m. A meal was now provided by the Maliks for Mussulman sepoys.

About 2 p.m., while the pipers of the first Sikhs were playing, a man was observed to wave a sword from the top of a tower of the Drepilari village. This was apparently a concerted signal, as those villagers who were among the officers and men cleared off towards the village. Two shots were now fired from the Drepilari village, the second of which wounded Lieutenant Seton Browne in the thigh. Firing now commenced from the villages to the south and east, and a hot fire was opened from the Drepilari village (north). The fire was directed on the British officers, and Colonel Bunny was almost immediately wounded mortally through the stomach while looking for a position to hold, and issuing orders to his men. There was a large number of men at the gate of the Drepilari village who were firing and were about to charge the guns. On them the guns opened with case at a range of about a hundred yards.

Captain Browne, R.A., was now wounded in the upper arm by a bullet which severed the artery (this proved fatal); and Lieutenant Cruikshank, R. A., was shot twice in the right arm. Sixteen rounds per gun had been carried. The shrapnel was fired reversed. The ammunition was very shortly expended. At the commencement of the firing there was general stampede among the baggage mules, and it was this that caused the very large loss of property that ensued. All the men's great-coats tied up in mule loads, most of the reserve ammunition, 1st Punjab Infantry, drums, messplates, &c., mule-gear, pakhals and many other things had to be abandoned. Immediate withdrawal was imperative, and the mules were not present to be loaded. It seems that the retirement which now commenced under such very trying conditions was carried out with great deliberation and in the most stubborn and gallant manner. As it began Lieutenant Higginson was shot through the arm, and Surgeon-Captain Cassidy in the knee. The enemy now appeared on all sides in great force.

* By the Political Officer.

All British military officers were now wounded, two of them mortally, yet they all continued to carry out their duties and lead their men. The circumstances must be admitted to have been trying in the extreme for the troops, and their staunchness is worthy of the highest praise. Subadars Narain Singh, 1st Sikhs, Sundar Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry, and Jemadar Sherzad, 1st Sikhs behaved with the greatest gallantry. Getting together a party of their men they made a most determined stand by the wall of a garden and from it they covered the first withdrawal, themselves under heavy fire, remaining, till the enemy closed with them. Subadar Sundar Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry, was now killed, and by far the greater number of the casualties of the day took place here.

Under cover of this stand the wounded were carried and helped away, and the guns withdrawn, along a lane, to a low Kotal about 300 yards distant, where a fresh position was occupied. The survivors of the party at the garden wall then withdrew.

The retirement was continued by successive units, very deliberately and with complete regularity, positions being held on the ridges stretching from south to north until the Sheranni plain was reached (about two miles). All this time the enemy was constantly enveloping the flanks. The main road which had been taken in the morning had been abandoned, as it was commanded on both sides, and parties of the enemy were advancing from Sheranni.

Lieutenant Higginson was, during this part of the retirement, again shot in the arm.

Eventually, about 5-30 P.M., a good position was found about a mile from the last of the above-mentioned ridges. Reinforcements began to appear in sight, and the enemy was beaten off.

The fact that the retreat, over a distance of three miles, occupied 3½ hours, shows how stubbornly the enemy was resisted.

The number of the enemy at first is estimated at 500 but constant reinforcements during the retirement raised their numbers to probably much over 1,000 They are understood to have lost 90 killed and many wounded.

From the Kotal sowars had been sent to camp to call for reinforcements, which reached the force in the last-mentioned position about 6-15 P.M. They consisted of two companies, 1st Sikhs, under Lieutenant de Brett, R.A., accompanied by Lieutenant Stockley, R.E., and brought fresh ammunition. They had covered the distance from camp (9 miles) in less than an hour and a half.

With the ammunition now received the heights around and the village of Sheranni were shelled (the latter at 1,400 yards), with the result that the enemy finally retired, and the village was partially set on fire.

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The remainder of the withdrawal was unmolested, and the rear-guard reached camp at 12-30 A.M. Some help was given by Khidder Khels, who brought water for the wounded during the retreat; and who, during the following two days, brought in the bodies of all killed, except two which could not be found. †

The bodies so brought in had been horribly mutilated, irrespective of their religion.

Colonel Bunny and Captain Browne, R.A., died of their wounds on the road, and their bodies, with that of Lieutenant Cruikshank, R.A., and all the wounded, were brought in with the retirement.

TOTAL CASUALTIES.

	Killed	Wounded.
British officers	3	3
Native ,, ...	1	...
Non-commissioned officers and men	22	25

Several mules and horses also killed and wounded.

The news reached me at Miran Shah at 11 P.M. on the 10th, and I arrived at Datta Khel, with Surgeon-Captain Ozzard, at 8 A.M. the next morning.

The first matter for consideration was the recovery of the dead left on the field, and the Government and private property. As they were all left on, and close to the scene of the first assault, which could hardly have been reached without much loss (with the available troops), and as the Khidder Khels promised to bring in the bodies, and as there was small chance of finding any of the property still lying there, I was obliged to abandon the idea.

A statement of lost property will follow as soon as it can be compiled. It includes 8 rifles (of killed).

It has already been said that Colonel Bunny and Captain Browne, R.A., continued to carry on their duties after being mortally wounded, and this they continued to do until the near approach of death stopped them, and it has also been said that Subadar Sundar Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry, was killed while fighting in the most gallant and self-sacrificing manner.

The behaviour of Lieutenants Seton Browne and Higginson, in leading their men, and, after the death of their seniors, conducting the retreat, though themselves severely wounded, is worthy of high praise.

The behaviour of the whole force throughout was splendid, and I propose to bring to notice the very fine conduct of some individuals, without which the account of the event would be incomplete, in a supplementary letter.

In continuation of my letter No. 230, dated 16th instant, I have the honour to report further on several instances of individual conduct.

After the two Royal Artillery officers had fallen, that is almost immediately after the attack began the gunners continued to fire under the orders of their non-commissioned officers, until their ammunition was expended; in No. 3 Sub division firing blank by the Havildar's order when the shells were expended, until the mules were ready. The men serving this gun were—Havildar Nihal Singh, Naik Utam Chand, Gunners Jowala Singh, Chet Singh and Diwan Singh (II). The carriage-mule being wounded Havildar Nihal Singh, Naik Utam Chand and Gunner Jowala Singh carried the gun-carriage to the relief line (about 170 yards). Gunner Chet Singh was wounded in the face when limbering up, and was taken away by Gunner Diwan Singh (II).

In No. 4 Sub-division, although the gun twice turned over backwards and two lanyards broke, the men continued to fight their gun. They were—Naik Sharaf Ali, Lance-Naik Phulla Khan, Gunner Dulla Khan and Havildar Umar Din (killed). The gun-mule in this Sub-division was wounded just after being limbered up, and threw the gun and bolted. The gun was then carried away by Havildar-Major Muhammed Ismail, Gunner Dulla Khan and Gunner Lakhu as far as the relief line.

Driver Havildar Rudh Singh gave great help in sending back the wounded, and Salutri Kewal dressed Captain Browne's wound under fire. The drivers all behaved excellently, even loading up the great-coats on the relief line mules until ordered by Captain Browne to desist. Those whose mules were shot or broke away all helped other drivers or took their share in carrying the wounded. The Havildar-Major seems to have conducted the retirement of the section in a cool and able manner.

During this first withdrawal Lance-Naik Shah Sowar, 1st Sikhs, behaved with much gallantry, keeping the enemy off with his fire, while he accompanied and helped those carrying Captain Browne, R. A. (who had been wounded).

It is to be remembered that the guns, while being fought as above described, were at a distance of only 100 yards from a threatening enemy, and were under a converging fire from different sides.

The stand made at point C. has already been described. This was under the direction of Subadars Sundar Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry, and Narain Singh, 1st Sikhs. The latter officer, also, with great presence of mind, removed a large quantity of ammunition from the reserve ammunition boxes of his regiment, and rapidly distributed it. Some was also carried away by Bugler Bela Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry. The value of this ammunition to the force cannot be over-estimated had it not been rescued, it is difficult to think how the enemy could have been kept off at all.

The following men had been sent under heavy fire to fetch away the ammunition boxes by Subadar Narain

† Since this was written these two bodies have also been recovered.

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Singh, Naik Lachman Singh, 1st Sikhs, Sepoy Shiv Singh, 1st Sikhs, who went back twice, and was afterwards twice wounded; Sepoy Isar Singh, 1st Sikhs, Lance-Naik Atar Singh, 1st Sikhs (killed), and Langri Jhanda Singh, 1st Sikhs.

The conduct of Subadar Sundar Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry, at the place where he died, was most heroic.

At this place many other men also behaved with great heroism. All those who fell there gave their lives to cover the withdrawal of their comrades. Among the survivors Lance-Naik Ishar Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry, fought the enemy hand to hand very gallantly there, killing several with his bayonet, and generally rendering great help; and Bugler Bela Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry, who has been mentioned above, was again conspicuous fighting bravely and effectively with a rifle he saved from one of the killed, and later in distributing under fire the ammunition which had been saved.

During the first withdrawal to the Kotal Jemadar Sherzad, 1st Sikhs, carried Lieutenant Higginson, wounded, away under a very heavy fire. A little later taking a rifle and ammunition from a dead sepoy, he covered the retreat of a party (consisting of Havildar Muhammad Bakhsh, Naik Khwaja Muhammad and Sepoy Isar Singh, 1st Sikhs), who were carrying Surgeon-Captain Cassidy, wounded, to the rear. He also carried Surgeon-Captain Cassidy part of the way.

Sepoy Allahyar Khan, 1st Punjab Infantry, carried Lieutenant Seton Browne, wounded, to the Kotal.

Subadar Nawab Khan, 1st Sikhs, was one of the last to leave the scene of the outrage, and both there, and throughout the subsequent retirement, he worked in a very cool and admirable way.

During the general retirement from the Kotal towards the place where the reinforcements were met the ability and coolness of Subadar Narain Singh, 1st Sikhs, mentioned above, were of the greatest value. Lance-Naik Assa Singh, 1st Punjab Infantry, did good work in helping Lieutenant Seton Browne along when the enemy was pressing the retreat.

Sepoy Nurdad, 1st Punjab Infantry, repulsed an attack of a party of the enemy. After shooting down two at a very short distance, he led a successful counter-charge against them, being himself severely wounded.

Reference was made in the previous report to the most gallant conduct of the deceased officers—Colonel Bunny, Captain Browne, R.A., and Subadar Sundar Singh. At the time it was written, I was not aware that Lieutenant Cruikshank, R.A., had also behaved in a most conspicuous manner getting up and continuing to fight his guns, after being once shot down, until he was killed by another bullet.

The sudden and treacherous way in which the attack began, and the fact that at the very first the men saw all their British officers shot down, make the staunchness and gallantry of the native officers, non-commissioned officers and men even more praiseworthy than they might otherwise have been.

The indomitable spirit of No. 6 Bombay Mountain Battery is beyond all praise.

The conspicuous behaviour of Lieutenants Higginson and Seton Browne in conducting the retirement, while severely wounded, has been mentioned before.

I trust the General Officer Commanding may see fit to recommend these two British officers and all native officers, non-commissioned officers and men mentioned by name above for a signal reward for their gallantry. And I would also ask permission to submit a list of those killed at the garden wall with a view to the recognition of their splendid conduct being extended to their widows or heirs.

When the previous report was written the casualties were understated. They were as follows:

Total killed 26, and 11 horses and mules. Wounded 35, and 5 mules. Also 24 baggage mules missing.

Though it is not my business to report on Civil Officer it would be unjust to omit mentioning that Mr. Gee's exertion and presence of mind were of great value in the help he rendered during the retirement and in sending to call up reinforcements.

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Cherat Notes.

BEFORE leaving Cherat, in fact before the order had been received to mobilise, our bandsmen entertained the musicians of "The Buffs" and "The Queen's Own" to a Smoking Concert to celebrate the event of Her Most Gracious Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

The date chosen was the 17th June, as the bands had too many engagements to admit of a later and more appropriate date being fixed and the concert was a great success. Bandmaster Davies presided at the piano, whilst Lance-Corporal Walsh performed the duties of Chairman with his usual ability. Sergt. Peggie and Bandsmen Lyons, Benson and Fell together with Bandmaster Davies of ours must receive special mention for their songs as must Bandmaster Hackney and Bandsmen Collier and Rodgers of "The Buffs" and Boy McNamara and Bandsman Cornwall of the Royal West Kent. It was 1-20 A.M.. before the very excellent programme was finished, and it was with much regret that each made his way homeward after having lustily joined in the chorus of the National Anthem.

The following is a programme :—

Overture ... ... String Bands.
Song ... ... "The song that will live for ever."
BANDSMAN BENSON.

Comic Song ... ... "She was one of the early birds."
BANDSMAN COLLIER, "THE BUFFS."

Song ... ... "Swanee River."
BOY McNAMARA, R. W. K.

Comic Song ... ... "I did't get a look at 'em at all."
BANDSMAN LYONS.

Encore ... ... "The Recruiting Sergeant."
Song ... ... "In Cellar Cool."
BAND-MASTER HACKNEY, "THE BUFFS."

Encore ... ... "Rocked in the cradle of the deep."
Comic Song ... ... "The 'Addock Smoker's Daughter."
BANDSMAN CORNWALL, R. W. K.

Song ... ... "The Deathless Army."
BAND-MASTER DAVIES.

Encore ... ... "Good Company."
Song ... ... "The Holy City."
LANCE-CORPL. SHEPHERD, "THE BUFFS."

Mouth Organ Solo ... ... "Selected."
BAND-MASTER STUART, R. W. K.

Song ... ... "Oh! Nannie wilt thou gang wi me."
SERGEANT PEGGIE.

Encore ... ... "My Heather Hills."
Comic Song ... ... "Goodbye Dhangebye."
BANDSMAN RODGERS.

Comic Song ... ... "When they go to Bye-Bye."
BANDSMAN HICKMAN.

Recitation ... ... "Nellie Brown."
LANCE-CORPL. BROWN, "THE BUFFS."

Song ... ... "O promise me."
LANCE-CORPL. WALSH.

Comic Song ... ... "Knocked' em in the Old Kent Road."
LANCE-CORPL. McGEE, R. W. K.

Song ... ... "My Nannies Awa."
BANDSMAN BROTHERSTON.

Recitation ... ... "The Merchant of Venice."
BANDSMAN LANGLEY, "THE BUFFS."

Song ... ... "The Little Nipper."
BANDSMAN FELL.

* * * * * *

The detachment really had hardly settled down at Cherat before being recalled, but during the few weeks they were away succeeded in winning a cricket match against "The Buffs" and losing a return one by only five runs. Corporal Smith, "B" Company was the most successful on our side, scoring 40 in the first match and taking 13 wickets for 26 runs. In addition there was a lot of football, our regimental team being in training there after returning from Murree. It is a matter of impossibility to give details however.

The detachment left Cherat on the evening of Saturday, 19th June, two days after receiving orders to rejoin head-quarters, the delay being caused by the deficiency of transport. The detachment marched both marches at night entrained at Pabbi on Monday morning and arriving at Nowshera just before midday of the same date.

From Chichanna, as no doubt you've heard
The yarn, somewha tru e, though absurd
How a misbehaved mule
When upholding Home Rule
Our hard-earned rest did disturb.

Lord Roberts tells this amusing story in his "Forty-one Years in India" :—"A curious incident happened at the Alambagh. I was employed inside the enclosure, when all at once I heard a noise and commotion some little distance off. Getting on to the roof, I looked over the plain and saw our troops flying in every direction. There was no firing, no enemy in sight, but evidently something was wrong; so I mounted my horse and rode to the scene of confusion, where I found that the ignominious flight of our troops was caused by infuriated bees, which had been disturbed by an officer of the 9th Lancers thoughtlessly thrusting a lance into their nest. There was no serious consequence, but the Highlanders were heard to remark on the unsuitability of their dress for an encounter with an enemy of that description."

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

1ST CLASS CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

The following have passed in Part I:—

No. 3306, Corporal A. Lockie, "B" Company.

No. 3054, Private E. Miller, "F"

No. 4103, Lance-Corporal A. Dipper, "G" Company.

No. 5323, Private H. Creed, "G" Company.

Passed in Part II:—

No. 3610, Corporal J. Stobbie, "G" Company.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Sergeant-Major:—

Quarter-Master Sergeant R. Lundie.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2*d.* per diem:—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3022, Pte. W. Moat. | No. 3976, Pte. R. Dick.
" 4113, " J. Linehan. | " 1623, " J. McNulty.
No. 4121, Pte. J. Donoghue.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4085, Pte. McCluskey.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 4182, Pte. H. Simms. | No. 4153, Pte. T. Sutton.
" 3123, " W. Johnson. | " 4162, " C. Oliver.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 4106, Pte. G. Blackmore. No. 3588, Pte. W. Trotter.
" 3444, " A. Kay. " 4008, " J. Duffin.
No. 4101, H. Crown.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 4094, Lce.-Corpl. E. Mitchell. | No. 4068, Pte. J. Hall.
No. 4138, Lce.-Corpl. G. Charters.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4115, Pte. A. Pennifold.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 4117, Pte. G. Slater. | No. 4141, Pte. A. Thomson.
No. 4119, Lce.-Corpl. R. Martin.

Granted 1*d.* per diem:—

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4670, Pte. J. Donnelly. | No. 5434, Pte. J. Fraser.
" 5486, " P. Struthers. | " 5441, " J. McIntyre.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 5481, Pte. A. Holden. | No. 4661, Pte. G. Russell.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4977, Pte. W. Connell. | No. 4635, Pte. G. Clarkson.
No. 5482, Pte. E. Wright.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 5060, Pte. R. Wilson. | No 4984, Pte. J. Douglas.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 5233 Pte. J. Taylor.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 5068, Pte. G. Watt.

Restored 1D. PER DIEM.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 3708, Pte. A. Davidson.

Restored 2D. PER DIEM.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 3740, Pte. A. Dobson.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 3870, Pte. J. Brown.

The Annual Regimental Dinner.

THE Annual Regimental Dinner was held in London on the 16th June, when about 30 past and present officers of both battalions met at the Hans Crescent Hotel.

This was a somewhat small gathering, but very few of the 1st Battalion were able to be present, owing to the recent return of a large number of the men from Barry Musketry Camp and a consequent press of work. The chair was taken by General Traill Burroughes and letters were read from General Sir William Ewart, the Duke of Sutherland and others regretting their inability to attend. Among those present in addition to the chairman were: The Marquis of Lorne, who was the guest of the regiment, Colonel Knollys, Colonel Chater, Colonel Trotter Major McDougall, Major Gordon, Captain Collings, and Lieutenant Johnson.

* * * * * *

The 1st Battalion was represented by Colonel Hannay, Major Goff, Captain David Henderson, Captain Patten, and Lieutenant Courtenay; Captain Robinson and Lieutenant C. Maclean were the only 2nd Battalion officers present.

The usual loyal toasts were proposed; Lord Lorne returning thanks for the toast of "The Princess Louise." The health of the 1st Battalion and 2nd Battalion were drunk with enthusiasm and responded to by Colonel Hannay and Captain Robinson, respectively. In addition to these toasts the healths of "the warrant officers and non-commissioned officers" of the regiment was also proposed and received with the greatest display of cordiality by all present. The battalion will be glad to hear that their late Colonel, Colonel Trotter was looking extremely well, as was also Captain Patten who had recently come home on sick leave. At the conclusion of the evening the health of Colonel Chater was proposed and a hearty vote of thanks accorded to him for the successful manner in which he had managed the affairs of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Dinner Club.

Colonel Chater briefly returned thanks, and at the earnest solicitation of all present agreed to continue to officiate for another year.

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Managerial.

—o—

REALLY our last few editions have been such continual apologies that we feel ashamed to make more but are certain that all shortcomings of the present number will be overlooked when the difficulties that the Managerial (to coin a word) staff has had to contend with during the last few months are taken into consideration. To all our regimental readers who have shared with us the discomforts of a 36 lb. kit we, of course, need make no excuse, and even our home and other readers will, we feel sure, have overlooked the delay in the publication of this number when they have read as far as this the last page.

To manage a paper 60 miles beyond the Indian frontier, 200 miles from the nearest Railway station, and 400 from one's printer, is, we can assure all, no easy task; and to add to our troubles although news is plentiful contributions are unfortunately the reverse. As some recompense for our delay we have issued this as an extra big number of twenty pages, but in doing so have found it necessary to make an extra charge of one anna which however we do not think will be begrudged by those who buy the paper to send to their friends.

For the convenience of those wishing to send the paper home arrangements have been made to send direct from Nowshera, and all subscribers have to do, is to give the addresses of their friends, to whom they want papers sent, to the Manager who will arrange that the papers are sent away direct from the depôt. To cover the expense of postage, trouble, &c., a further charge of one anna will be necessary, but this also is a small item under the present circumstances and considering the trouble and uncertainty of sending papers away from the Tochi Valley together with the possibility of the mail being looted between here and Bannu.

DEATH.

BENNET.—At Gambat, on the 28th June, No. 5002, Private J. Bennett, "G" Company, of exhaustion.

EDGAR.—At Banda, on 5th June, No. 5105, Private N. Edgar, "B" Company.

CAMERON.—At Saidgi, on 9th July, No. 3734, Private Cameron, "A" Company, of heat apoplexy.

MCDONALD.—At Saidgi, on the 9th July, Sergeant-Major A. MCDONALD, of heat apoplexy.

A Place Kick.

—o—

A striking instance of intrepidity and presence of mind occurred on one of the marches in the Peninsula. During a short halt, the 87th took up its ground upon a hill not far from the enemy, and the men were sitting down to rest, when a howitzer that had been masked opened upon them; some shell fell short, but one alighted in the centre of one of the companies. The men naturally endeavoured to get out of its reach, when Jas. Geraghty, a private grenadier, called out to the men "that he would show them how they played football in "Limerick;" and immediately kicked the live shell, with its burning fuse, over the edge of the hill: the moment it touched the ground it exploded without injuring a man of the regiment. For this gallant act the commanding officer made the man a handsome present.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We have to acknowledge with many thanks, the receipt of all our numerous contemporaries during the time we have been in the Tochi Valley, and hope copies of the *Thin Red Line* will be received by them in return.

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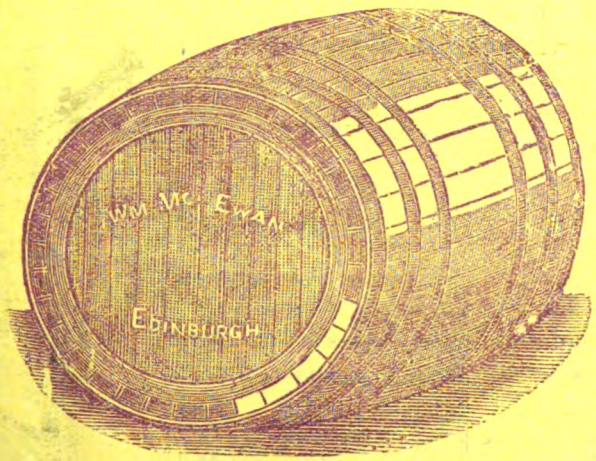

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 10—Vol. III. TOCHI VALLEY,—SEPTEMBER 1897. Price, 3 Annas.

SKIRLS

ON the afternoon of Sunday, 1st August, there was some little excitement in camp at Sheranni. The morning passed off quietly enough with the usual church parade, but about three in the afternoon our neighbours, No. 6 Bombay Mountain Battery, were observed to be unduly energetic and in a short time had every thing ready for moving. Upon enquiries being made, it appeared that news had been received of a threatened attack upon our line of communication at Miran Shah and the officer commanding there had urgently demanded re-inforcements. These consisting of four companies of the 33rd Punjab Infantry and the four guns of No. 6 Mountain Battery and 40 sabres of the 1st Punjab Cavalry were at once sent back along the line of communication, the battery marching to Boya, a distance of over 20 miles, that night, and then into Miran Shah the next morning, the wing of the 33rd and the Cavalry only going to Datta Khel, companies from there being sent back to Boya, which again re-inforced Miran Shah. No attack was, however made on Miran Shah post, but the re-inforcements have been needed to protect convoys.

* * * * * *

On the same day 257 out of 299 camels out grazing from Miran Shah were looted and it is supposed driven over the Afghan border; two sarwans were killed and also four of the enemy, who were supposed to number 400 or 500. Some sabres of the 1st Punjab Cavalry and two companies of infantry went in pursuit, but the camels were not recovered. This loss not unlikely caused the nervousness at Miran Shah and the demand for re-inforcements.

* * * * * *

The most-to-be-envied individual in the regiment at the present is, perhaps, Corporal Ward of "G," who having received the especial attention of our Waziri friends, the "snipers," will bear upon his body for many a

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day the mark of their regard. On the evening of the 26th July, Corporal Ward, lying in his tent, had really a very narrow escape, only just shifting the position of his head before being struck in the calf of the leg; had it not been for this, in all probability, the shot would have entered his chest with much more serious results; a rivet was drawn out of the wound a few weeks afterwards, and a snider bullet found embedded in the kit, used as a pillow, of the man lying next to him was, no doubt, fired from the same antiquated weapon that caused the wound. Amongst the casualties the same night was a mule, and a certain paper notified the fact by stating that "the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders had a mule killed and a man wounded."

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One of the signallers, Private Kerr, also had a very close shave the same night, as a shot evidently aimed at the signalling lamp, perforated his jacket, which was lying close to his head.

* * * * * *

Captain J. G. Wolrige-Gordon arrived in camp on the 2nd, having come out direct from home on completion of his duty as Adjutant of our 5th Volunteer Battalion. He has taken over command of his old company, "E."

* * * * * *

On the same day the whole brigade again journeyed to Maizar and the Datoi-road destroying what villages and towers remained, and otherwise completing the previous week's work. "B." Company went out as escort to the Survey Officer and had rather a stiffish day. The whole brigade returned to camp about 3 P.M.

* * * * * *

Owing to the number of regiments of the Punjab at present mobilised and ordered to the Frontier, there is to be no second course at Changla Gali School of Musketry this year. This has allowed Quarter-Master Sergeant (O. R. S.) Macintosh, who was officiating as Sergeant-Major there, to resume his orderly room duties at the depôt at Nowshera, as mentioned in our last number.

Road-making, or at least road-improving, commenced on the 9th August, a working party of one hundred men being detailed from the battalion almost daily for about a fortnight, to improve the Datta Khel road.

* * * * * *

When we marched out of Datta Khel for Sheranni, the road, it will be remembered, after about the second mile, was very little better than a mountain path; but since the attention it has received from the working parties, a wonderful improvement has taken place, and it is now almost a pleasure to march along it,—at least it will be when we know it will not be necessary to retrace our footsteps.

* * * * * *

About this time too, a ditch, as an additional defence, was dug round the walls of the camp, and as a further impediment to an enemy wishing to come to close quarters, a brushwood *zereba* was constructed outside the ditch.

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Eighteen more men joined from Bannu on the 10th August, having left on the 4th. The Rifle Brigade was also re-inforced by 21 men on the same day.

* * * * * *

The remainder of the awards of the Order of Merit gained by the little force that made such a gallant fight at Maizar, was announced to the whole brigade on the morning of Wednesday, 11th August. The battalion paraded just after 7 o'clock and marched to the rendezvous, east of the camp, where the whole of the troops in Sheranni were drawn up in the form of a hollow square. The 1st Punjab Cavalry and ourselves formed the front face, the Sappers and Miners, 1st Sikhs, 1st Punjab Infantry and 33rd Punjab Infantry in the centre, whilst the Rifle Brigade and No. 3 (Peshawar) Mountain Battery were on the left. Almost immediately upon the arrival of General Bird, who was received with the usual salute and "Loch Leven Castle" played by the massed pipers of the Native Infantry, the distinguished few marched to the front and saluted the General, and another dispatch was read from His Excellency the Viceroy adding to the previous list of awards of the Order of Merit. This was, as on the previous occasion, interpreted to the native troops, and

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forming in column of route the brigade marched passed the General at the slope and returned to their various camps about 9 o'clock. The camp was again fired into this night, but there were no casualties.

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Two reconnoitring parties were sent out on the 12th, leaving camp just before 6 A.M. Our party, consisting of "A," "B" and "C" Companies, 200 strong, with an equal number of the 1st Punjab Infantry, proceeded by way of the Shawal Algad, which had to be forded about twenty times, to a mile or two beyond Gurgwashta, and then returned by a hill route south of camp, arriving about half-past four. It was a rather fatiguing day, the distance covered being probably sixteen miles, and the effect of the Waziristan stones upon the shoe leather, after being sodden by the waters of the Shawal, most disastrous, the entire sole of many of the shoes coming right off.

* * * * * *

The other party, of a similar strength, consisting of the Rifle Brigade and 1st Sikhs, with two guns, proceeded towards the Shawatghalai Pass and ascended to a height of 7,300 feet, passing some "Kirris," or encampments, of friendly Khidder Khels, who had large flocks with them. The country in that direction appears to be well wooded with pine and fir and a few deodars.

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To break the monotony of camp life somewhat, sports had, by kind permission of the General Officer Commanding the Tochi Field Force, been arranged for Friday, 13th August. A capital piece of ground was selected on the bank of the Tochi river north of camp, and this in the expert hands of the Sappers and Miners soon assumed the form of the sealed pattern sports ground; all the large stones were removed, picket posts, ropes and flags arranged in quite the approved style, and the piece of ground on which the flat racing was to take place, was a marvel of track-making, considering the condition of the ground only a few days before. There were a good many events for both Native and British troops and substantial prizes in kind to the latter. Taken altogether we cannot complain of our success, but should have liked to have won the "100 yards" and, no doubt, had our regimental champion been prepared to run, it would have given the Ninety-third a place at least in all events; as it was we cannot complain with the other four wins, the "Tug of war," "Mule race," "Putting the stone" and "Khud race," all being to our credit. The "Tug of war" was a fairly good one, the pull lasting about four and a half minutes, though our team never received a check when once they got a start. The "Lloyd-Lindsay," which was very amusing, the majority of the mules showing a disposition to break for their own lines, went to "E" Company's team, who were well drilled and broke their bottles without much trouble. "Puting the stone" was, of course, a foregone conclusion, and it was very sportsman like of the Rifles to enter as they did.

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There was not sufficient time the first day to finished the events; the "Khud race" was, therefore, postponed until the following evening. The ground selected for this was rather a stiff bit, the distance being altogether about one mile: over the Tochi river, up a stiff hill, round a flag down again and ford the river to the winning post—no little test of endurance. In this we secured first and had most of the prize-winners, as also most of the entries.

Altogether the sports must be considered a great success and the thanks of all are due to General Bird and the officers, and to all who contributed to the very acceptable prizes.

The massed pipers of the brigade, under our pipe-major, played a very excellent selection during the afternoon, and, although all our own drums had been left at Bannu, the native infantry supplied this deficiency, and there were two capital big drummers (in addition to Drummer Brown (who wielded the sticks turn about.

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A comparatively recent number of our esteemed contemporary *The Man of the World* commits a rather grave error when it states that the Guides Cavalry is the only regiment with mounted piper; we know for a fact that the 17th Bengal Cavalry, who many will remember having met on the march from Umballa to Mian Mir in the winter of 1893, have also mounted pipers who play the "fall in" on horseback and also play to their squadrons on the line of march.

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All will be glad to hear that the command of our regimental depôt at Stirling will shortly devolve upon our late commanding officer, Colonel P. D. Trotter, who will assume command of the Castle in the month of December.

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"Lieutenant-General Frederic William Traill Burroughs, C. B., has been selected," says the *Broad Arrow*, "for the Colonelcy of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, vacated by the death of General Fraser." General Burroughs, as all of course know, served with this regiment through the Mutiny and was one of the first to enter the Secundrabagh at Lucknow, in company with Sir John Ewart, now our own Colonel-in-Chief.

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We learn from the *Civil and Military Gazette* that owing to the number of regiments on service the Bengal-Punjab Football Tournament will not take place this cold weather.

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On the evening of the 16th a party of our cavalry whilst proceeding up the Shawal Algad was fired upon, but could discover nothing of an enemy. The time of this attack however seemed to suggest that the Madda Khels were in the habit of returning to the Maizar villages during the night time, and arrangements were made to, if possible, capture them; three columns being ordered to leave camp at an early hour on the following morning.

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The first column, consisting of 200 of ours and the same number of the 1st Punjab Infantry, paraded soon after 3 A.M., ours being in trews and taking half bread rations, and proceeded towards Gurgwashta. The second column, consisting of 200 each of the Rifle Brigade and the 33rd Punjab Infantry and two guns, with the cavalry marched by the Maizar road, starting about an hour later up the Tochi to, if possible, cut off the enemy's right flank. The Madda Khel however, had probably got wind of our approach, for the villages were unoccupied, though several of the enemy were reported as seen on the surrounding hills. The parties returned to camp about 10 A.M.

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In the afternoon a guard-of honour of one hundred men was detailed for duty at a Durbar, when the terms imposed on the various tribes were announced. A very few of the Madda Khel headmen were present, and these naturally of the least importance; no doubt the leaders of the 10th June outrage are under the present circumstances justifiably bashful. The answer of the Madda Khels was to be brought in in ten days' time. Our pipers were with the guard-of-honour, small detachments from all the regiments in camp being also present.

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The Tochi was very often in flood about this time owing to frequent thunderstorms in the surrounding hills (it being the monsoon season in more propitious parts), and was at times quite impassable for troops. On the 16th, the mail travelling by ekka up-country near Badawan, between Kajuri and Saidgai, was overturned, and two of the mail bags washed away, one, we believe, not being recovered.

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Three days later the mail ekka was attacked between Idak and Miran Shah, and the two sepoys of the escort and a Telegraph Babu were killed, one of the drivers was also severely wounded, but the other escaped, and although the rifles, equipment and uniform of the sepoys were taken away by the enemy, who numbered about eight or ten, the mail bags were not touched. A party of cavalry from Idak went almost immediately in pursuit and also some infantry, but no traces could be found of the thieves.

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Some camels grazing near Saidgai also went missing on the same day and were at first supposed to have been looted ; but it afterwards transpired that the camelmen themselves, who were Afghans, had driven the animals away and then reported the loss.

"For ways that are dark,
And for tricks that are vain,"

The "Wily Pathan" is certainly as "peculiar" as the "Heathen Chinee."

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Only one of the six British Officers who were present at Maizar is now alive, as the fifth, Lieutenant A. J. M. Higginson, of the 1st Sikhs, who was severely wounded in the arm there, but was on a fair way to recovery before he contracted enteric fever, died at Datta Khel on the 20th August; all the officers of the 1st Sikhs at Sheranni journeyed to Datta Khel to attend their brother officer's funeral, and he was buried near Lieutenant-Colonel Bunny and the others who fell on the 10th June last.

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On the 21st the Sappers and Miners, covered by a company of ours, improved the Sheranni Narai, or pass, leading into the Kazha valley. The route lay up a nullah which was quite impassable in places before being operated upon by the energetic sappers. The road was required for the advance of the first column into the Kazha. Two companies from each regiment in camp also proceeded to Maizar on this day to escort mules who went to graze, and to collect fodder.

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Orders for the despatch of the first column to the Kazha valley were issued on the evening of Saturday, 21st August, the force being ordered to leave on the following Monday; only light field service kits were carried, the remainder being stored in the Commissariat godown. The battalion went out with six strong companies, a detachment being left in Sheranni.

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The first column to the Kazha valley remained out for six days only, returning to Sheranni on the 28th August. The regiment returned to its old camping-ground south-west of camp.

During the absence of the battalion the small detachment left behind moved in behind the wall built across the north end of our camp and the defences were curtailed; duty was fairly heavy whilst the regiment was away, and one company of the Rifle Brigade was moved up from the East Camp to assist our detachment in manning the new wall.

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Two shots were fired into camp on the night of the column's departure, the enemy evidently being emboldened by the reduction of the garrison.

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About this time the epidemic of sickness which has up to the present carried off so many poor fellows of the Rifle Brigade began, and no reasons have as yet been assigned for its sudden appearance among an apparently healthy regiment with up to then a very small percentage in hospital. Their death-roll has been very heavy, including Major Raikes, second in command, and we sympathise with them in the loss of so many good soldiers.

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Two of our canine pets have so far followed the fortunes of the regiment up the Tochi, Major Napier's "Tramp," a fox terrier, and "Jock," also a terrier of an Irish strain, belonging to Private Lawrie, "H" Company. It is to be hoped that neither of the faithful doggies will be forgotten when the medal roll goes in.

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"Tis pleasant sure to see one's self in print," says Tom Hood, and the *Illustrated London News* has a sketch showing the "93rd marching into Datta Khel" in immaculate sections of fours and headed by eight pipers, two in excess of our complement by the way.

However, we feel very flattered at having looked so smart, and it has come quite as a surprise, for we were not aware that we cut such a dashing appearance on that particular day.

The *Graphic* of 21st August contains two drawings from sketches by our own special artist, whilst the *Daily Graphic*, dated two days previously, has four sketches emanating from

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the same source. There is also a photo in the *Graphic* of the following week showing a fatigue party of the regiment destroying the walls of Sheranni, and there have been several sketches and photos of late dealing with the Tochi, of more or less interest.

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Lance-Sergeant J. Durnan, who was at the School of Army Signalling, Kasauli, last winter, passed out with honour at the top of the Class and has been granted a certificate as Assistant Instructor. It is entirely an oversight that Sergeant Durnan's success was not before mentioned in the *Thin Red Line*.

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The following telegram from H. M. the Queen-Empress with reference to the affair at Maizar was published in battalion orders, dated Inzar Kach, 24th August :—

"I am grieved at the loss of brave officers and men and trust the wounded are doing well. It is most gratifying to see how well the native troops have behaved. The conduct of all my troops has been admirable."

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A column consisting of four companies of the Rifle Brigade, two of the 1st Punjab Infantry and the same number of the 33rd, together with some guns and Sappers and Miners went up the Tochi Valley about six miles, to Lundi Khel on Monday, 30th August, remaining out until the seventh of the following month, when it returned to Sheranni. The object of the advance was to survey a new Dotoi road, whilst it was also thought that the change would be beneficial to the health of the Rifle Brigade. On the return of this force the Rifle Brigade were detailed to find three hundred and fifty men for the second Kazha column, but the change of air for the few days had made little improvement in their health and they were unable to find this number; subsequently the detail was altered, the Rifles being ordered to Datta Khel and a corresponding number from our battalion joined Brigadier-General Symon's force which rendezvoused at that place on the 9th September. Medical inspection took place on the 8th, a very careful selection being made as the column was expected to have some fairly rough work on hand. This was a very busy day and final orders were not issued until very late in the evening.

On the following morning the battalion formed into four Companies, "C," "D," "E" and "F," re-inforced by fit men from the others, left camp, played out by the pipers of the 1st Sikhs. The detachment remaining at Sheranni was attached to "G" and "H" Companies and numbered, including men in hospital, just under three hundred. At first the original camp was retained, but it was found too large to be adequately garrisoned in the event of an attack, and the detachment moved behind the wall built for the protection of the camp during the absence of the first column, and eventually lined the whole of the south face. Sheranni was particularly short-handed during this time, as only the 1st Sikhs and two companies of the 33rd Punjab, with two guns and some forty cavalry remained in addition to our own detachment, which by courtesy was officially supposed to be of four companies. With so small a garrison the number and strength of the various piquets round the camp was materially reduced, but an extra duty in the shape of an escort of the Signalling party which went almost daily to the Sheranni Narai to hold communication with the Kazha column was found turn about by each regiment. This escort was anything but a sinecure, an almost perpendicular climb of several hundred feet having to be made at the end of a five miles march up a difficult nullah before sufficiently commanding ground could be found for a signalling station. The first escort, some of the 33rd Punjab Infantry, that accompanied the signallers on the 12th September, surprised a party of ten Waziris herding sheep and goats, and a sepoy was wounded in trying to disarm one of them who snatched at, and tried to make off, with his rifle; a couple of shots however brought the Waziri down before he had gone any distance and he died almost immediately, and the remaining prisoners with their herds were brought into camp by the party on its return. An armed prisoner was also brought in by a party of ours who were on escort duty on the 19th, but it was decided that the poor man was merely a harmless friendly and he was allowed to go away.

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The usual escort to the few remaining mules grazing on the crops towards Turmor (a village on the left bank of the Tochi, about two miles from camp) also continued, but was popular with the lucky possessors of a fish hook and facetiously became known by the troops as "fishing escort."

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2nd Lieutenant Elphinstone proceeded *en route* to Miran Shah on the 7th September, to take charge of our details there.

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A reconnaissance towards Gurgwashta took place on the 14th, the troops returning about 3 P.M., whilst on the 23rd the garrison was early astir, parade being at 4 A.M., and an advance made along the Dotoi road and round the village of Maizar to camp, without anything being seen.

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During the absence of the regiment sniping had been pretty frequent, no less than five shots being fired into camp on the early morning of the 26th September, when the snipers, out of bravado no doubt, lighted a fire, which blazed brightly for a few minutes and promptly drew a volley from a party of 33rd Punjab Infantry on the western piquet.

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The weather is becoming sensibly colder now, though the sun during the day is still hot. At night and in the morning it is decidedly chilly, and the winter clothing, for which indents have been called, will be appreciated by the time it is issued. So far we are much better off than the Native troops, who have only their Khaki clothing for both day and night wear, whilst we have our serges and trews. The cold weather seems to be having a beneficial effect upon the health of the troops and appetites are increasing at an alarming rate.

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News from the depôt at Nowshera occasionally filters through, from which we learn that the few men left there on detachment are having a busy time, the station in addition to many other things being a base hospital for the Malakand and Mohmund campaigns. The hospital as may be supposed is full of wounded, and there are some very ghastly sights which makes war seem very real.

The detachment finds eighteen for guard daily and they are little better off than ourselves as far as "nights in bed" are concerned. Scares too have been frequent, 40 rounds of ammunition served out, rifles left all night unlocked in the racks, and the men ready to turn out at a moment's notice on several occasions.

No enemy has, however, up to the present put in an appearance, and it has not been reported yet that Nowshera has been "sniped."

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Whilst some of our details were making their way up country to rejoin head-quarters, they rested at Boya on a night when that post was rather severely "sniped" by some energetic Waziris, who kept up a desultory attack for nearly two hours upon the post and succeeded in wounding a camel. Boya was only garrisoned by two companies of the 14th Sikhs and our piper corporal being one of the garrison was persuaded by the officer in command to play several soul-stirring airs on his instrument and, perhaps, lead the enemy into the belief that reinforcements were approaching the post. Either the ruse or the weird music had the desired effect, for the enemy gave little more trouble that night though one thousand or more were supposed to be on the hills south of Boya on that particular date.

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Lieutenant Seton-Browne of the 1st Punjab Infantry, the only survivor of the Maizar outrage, has been made a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, in recognition of his services on the 10th June last.

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Captain Robinson and Lieutenants Newall, Graham and Hyslop, have all been invalided to India, but we are glad to hear they are all doing well, and hope to be well enough to return to duty before long.

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Lieutenant Malcolm left us at Datta Khel on he 11th September for Uganda, where he has taken employment for five years under the East African Company. We wish him luck. In him

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we lose one of our polo team, a good football player and a keen *shikari*. We understand that the book, he and Captain Wellby, 18th Hussars, are writing of their expedition through Thibet and China last year, will shortly be published, and believe it will disclose a wonderful record of hardships and privations successfully overcome.

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Captain Mackenzie has been nominated by the War Office to succeed Captain Aytoun as Adjutant of the 3rd Battalion at Stirling, but has not yet received orders to proceed home.

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Lieutenant Marshall has received an extension of sick leave till the middle of November, and it is doubtful if he will even then be found fit to serve in India.

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A draft of 150 men is expected shortly from the 1st Baltalion, but it is not yet known what officers are coming out with it.

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At one time the general prevalent idea seemed to be that Sheranni Camp would be abandoned about the end of September, and that the regiment would be quartered in Datta Khel, and, perhaps, eventually make its way down country in the course of a few months. The wish, however, seems to have been father to the thought (though at one time the probability of a move seemed likely), and the latest orders and the arrival of the winter clothing seem to suggest that, at least part of the cold weather will have to be spent by the battalion in the salubrious climate of the Upper Tochi.

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The tents of the returning Kazha column could be seen in Datta Khel on the 28th September, and it was expected that head-quarters would be back in Sheranni again on the following day, but orders were issued cancelling the return until the 1st October. About three hundred men of the 33rd Punjab Infantry from Datta Khel Post marched into camp on the 29th, however, to make up their detachment here to a strength of five hundred rifles; the winter clothing for the regiment also arrived the same day, together with two treasure chests (a most important item) for the payment of the troops, who were in an almost complete state of bankruptcy.

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Divisional orders of the 26th September contained the following:—

A column composed as under will move out of Sheranni under command of Brigadier-General Egerton, C B., D.S.O., A. D. C., about the 3rd October 1897:—

2nd Btn., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 200 rifles; 1st Punjab Cavalry as detailed by G. O. C. 1st Brigade, 4 guns No. 3, Peshawar Mountain Battery; 1 Company Bengal Sappers and Miners; 1st Sikhs 500 rifles; 33rd Punjab Infantry 500 rifles.

Ten days' rations are ordered to be carried and the column will advance in a south-westerly direction towards the Zowe Valley.

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The two hundred rifles detailed by the above order to join the column will, as far as possible, be selected from the detachment left at Sheranni with the head-quarters of "G" and "H" Companies. Major Napier will probably be in command.

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Men with their "seven" in, and who did not take the "bounty," have been somewhat perturbed lately by the following general order:—

It is notified for information that the Government has sanctioned the detention in India of all T. E. men and men for transfer to the A. R. of British regiments and batteries employed with the Tochi, Malakhand, Mohmand and Tirah field forces, and of all other British corps which may have to be mobilised during the next few months, and of all British corps in the Rawalpindi and Peshawar districts, whether properly belonging to those districts or not, who are due to proceed home next trooping season.

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Although the regiment received their field service issue of shoes on the 15th August, it has been found necessary to order the issue of a second pair, the others having become unserviceable and this within one month too.

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Lieutenant J. Campbell is employed as field intelligence officer in the place of Lieutenant G. K. Cockerill, 28th Punjab Infantry, who has returned to Simla.

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In addition to the many deaths that it is our unpleasant duty to publish in this number, we have to regret the absence through sickness of Captain Robinson and Lieutenant Graham. The former was one of the first to suffer from dysentery, and although invalided first to Datta Khel and then to Miran Shah, his health has not improved and it is not unlikely that he will shortly go home on leave. Lieutenant Graham had an attack, fortunately not a severe one, of enteric fever and has been sent down to Rawalpindi, from whence he will shortly go home on sick leave. Many other officers, too, have had more or less severe attacks of fever and dysentery, and he is indeed a lucky man who can say he has been without sickness whilst with the regiment in the Tochi.

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The Mohmand and Afridi outbreaks, more especially the latter, have no doubt had some influence upon retention of the present expedition, although no rising of the Waziris has taken place; still with so much unrest on the frontier from Boner to Quetta, and with expeditions on hand at other spots, it would hardly be advisable to show any weakness in the Tochi, and no doubt this reason and the fact that the Madda Khel Maliks have not come in, have caused our remaining here much longer than would otherwise have been necessary. The G. O. C. second brigade, Brigadier-General Symons, has, however gone away to command one of the columns moving towards Tirah, and many of the staff officers have been posted to other appointments. We have also been robbed of all but obligatory mules to find transport for the same expedition and now depend largely upon the peaceful oont. General Sir William Lockhart, commanding the frontier force, having been recalled from home, is going against the Afridis in Tirah with a large force, the composition of which is given in another column, and it will no doubt be necessary to keep a considerable number of troops in the Tochi until the Afridis have been thoroughly humbled, and the deaths of the many brave men who have already fallen in fight against them have been amply avenged.

According to the *Civil and Military Gazette* fifty-nine thousand men and ninety guns, including Maxims, are on our frontier now.

Such a force has, perhaps, never before been collected for service in India since the last Afghan war.

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Organised by Color-Sergeant Middleby the detachment at Sheranni had a very excellent "gaff" on the last night of September. Our Brigadier and all the Staff honoured the performance by their presence, together with Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, who rode over from Datta Khel with Major Napier and other officers of the detachment. There was a very good programme, the "Queen" concluding the performance about ten o'clock.

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The following was the distribution of the Tochi field force about the middle of September, just before the return of the second Kazha column to Datta Khel—the strengthening of the Saidgai Post was to allow the garrison to cooperate, if necessary, with that of Bannu :—

Saidgai	6 Coys.	25th Punjab Infantry.
Kajuri	½ „	25th „ „
Idak	1½ „	25th „ „
„	1½ „	6th Bengal Light „
Miran Shah	6½ „	6th „ „ „
„	8 „	3rd Rifle Brigade.
Boya	3 „	14th Sikhs.
Datta Khel	6 „	33rd Punjab Infantry.
„	5 „	1st „ „
Sheranni	4 „	Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
„	8 „	1st Sikhs.
„	2 „	33rd Punjab Infantry.
Kazha column	4 „	Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
„	3 „	1st Punjab Infantry.
„	5 „	14th Sikhs.

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Lieutenant Ronald R. Stewart, who received his commission from ours into the Seaforth Highlanders in 1894, has, according to the "Gazette," resigned his commission.

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Afridi Sepoys in the native regiments are not to be taken for service against their clansmen when the Tirah Campaign starts, says *The Pioneer.*

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The greatest hardship, perhaps, borne by the troops out on the second Kazha column was the paucity of the fragrant weed-that of native manufacture, not an ideal tobacco, and even tea leaves taking the place of the favourite "Dunlop." After the first few days, too, matches were at a premium and thoughtful men commenced to carry a large stock of paper in their haversacks; one match by these economical means doing duty to light the pipes of perhaps a whole tent.

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There seems to be much controversy and difference of opinion among the rank and file as to the composition of our brigade neighbours, the 1st Sikhs of Maizar renown. This perhaps is not to be wondered at, as despite their designation, the 1st Sikhs, like most other regiments of the frontier force, are a class company regiment and contain in their ranks Punjabi Mussalmans, Dogras and Pathans in addition to the ubiquitous Sikh. As a matter of fact the 1st Sikhs consists of four companies of Sikhs, "A," "B," "G" and "H," one company of Dogras "E," and of the remainder two and a half are Punjabi Mussalmans with half a company of Pathans.

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Since our passage of the Indus last June, a second bridge of boats has been constructed across the river at Kushalgarh, the single one over which we marched being quite unequal to the extra traffic caused by the additional frontier disturbances. The lower road and old bridge is used for traffic proceeding westward to Kohat, whilst all return work makes its way to the Railway Station by the new bridge. Kushalgarh when we knew it was a fairly busy place, but words now we believe fail to describe it or the road to Kohat, which is almost a perpetual stream of transport animals, sheep and cattle.

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General Sir William Lockhart, who has been in command of the Punjab Army for the last four years, succeeds Sir George White as Commander-in-Chief in India.

Honour to Hindustan.

—o—

SEPTEMBER, 1897.

WHEREVER there floats the Empire Flag
Let the story be told and told
Of the courage of men, who made no brag,
But died in their frontier-hold!
Died for a Queen they had never seen,
For an Empress who reigned afar;
Died for the glory of what had been,
And the honour of India's Star;
Put down their lives for the common weal
That makes all our Empire One,
And gives us the silent pride we feel
When we speak of the unset sun.
Wherever there floats the Empire Flag,
On continent, island, or sea,
Let the story be told of the frontier-hold
That was kept, and ever will be,
By the men—what matter if brown or black?—
Who could die for the rag called the Union Jack!

Punch.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH SIKHS.—The 36th Sikhs, who so gallantly received their baptism of fire on the Samana range, were raised ten years ago by Colonel "Jim" Cooke and Captain H. R. Holmes, the latter the biggest man of his time in the Indian Army. The story goes, says the *Englishman*, that Captain Holmes used, when out recruiting in the Ludhiana District, to challenge all the young men of a village to wrestle with him, on condition that all competitors should enlist, the result being that with a nucleus of men from the 45th and 14th Sikhs, the new regiment was fit to appear before the Commander-in-Chief at a Meerut Camp-of-Exercise within a few months of the orders for raising it being issued. Its first Adjutant was Lieutenant, now Brevet-Major, C. R. Johnstone, who won his brevet in command of a body of Sikhs in the Shire Highlands in Africa, and is now on the Head-quarters Staff at Naini Tal. The regiment was sent from Delhi to join the Manipur Field Force in 1891, but never got beyond Golaghat in Assam, being detained there to watch the Naga Hills. It left Delhi 777 strong, every man being 5 feet 8-inch and over in height, with a 36-inch chest. Major Des Vœux, who commanded the Gulistan Garrison, was for many years an Adjutant of Volunteers in Australia, and became second-in-command on the retirement in 1892 of Captain Holmes. Another officer in this regiment is Lieutenant Fleming, the famous Tennis Champion.—*Civil and Military Gazette.*

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The First Kazha Column.

—o—

BRIGADE ORDERS BY BRIG.-GENERAL C. C. EGERTON, C. B., D. S. O., COMMANDING 1ST BRIGADE, TOCHI FIELD FORCE.

Camp Sheranni, August 24th, 1897.

425. The following force will march on Monday, 23rd instant, for the Kazha Valley :—

25 Sabres, 1st Punjab Cavalry.
4 Guns, No. 3 (Peshawar) Mountain Battery.
2nd. Btn , Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
4 Companies 1st Sikhs.
½ Company Bengal Sappers and Miners.

The Senior Medical Officer will make necessary medical arrangements. Five days' rations for troops and five days' grain for animals will be carried, also tentage and half field service scale baggage.

The column will be accompanied by the Divisional and Brigade Staff.

The Kazha Valley runs parallel to the Tochi about ten miles north of Sheranni, the Kazha river joining the Tochi, of which it is a feeder, at a place about midway between Datta Khel and Boya.

The object of the advance was apparently purely pacific, though it was surmised that Sadda Khan, the headman of Sheranni, who was very much wanted, was being sheltered by the Kazha tribesmen, his brother being a Malik of Inzar Kach, one of the chief villages visited. However correct this surmise may have been, Sadda Khan evidently had due notice of our approach, and although some were armed, all the natives met were most friendly, or at least so the political officer decided, and who should know better than he ?

Our old friend rumour had been busy for at least a fortnight before this, so the order for the advance was no surprise and arrangements were at once made for storing the spare kits, only a light field one of 24 lbs. being ordered to be carried. Medical inspection was held on Sunday, 22nd, men any way unfit being left behind. "A" and "B" Companies were broken up and distributed among the remainder of the battalion which marched out six companies strong of ninety odd rifles each.

On Monday, the 23rd, all were astir at half-past four, and the battalion paraded in field service order just after 6-15. Two companies of the battalion were detailed for advance guard, being followed by the guns and Sappers, the remaining four companies and the Sikhs bringing up the rear. The advance was over the Tochi river and up a nullah towards the Sheranni Narai or Pass, and progress was very slow with frequent halts. The road over the pass had to be improved before the baggage could be got over it; and it was past one before the column was safely over, when a long halt took place and those who cared to, breakfasted on the "bully" and biscuits which formed the day's ration.

From the top of the pass and the bivouacs an excellent view could be obtained, stretching away into Afghanistan, and two very conspicuous trees known as "Dwa Nashta" were very distinctly seen, although probably over ten miles away. They must have been of great size, and being seen for miles around distinctly define the border at that point.

After the halt the column advanced down a mountain path and into a wide nullah leading to the Kazha, the camping ground being reached about three in the afternoon ; the ground selected was on a commanding spur and being on all sides steep and precipitous, it was not found necessary to build the usual walls for defence. The surrounding valley seemed to be very fertile with crops of jowar and makai (maize). The small and dirty inhabitants of a small and dirty village on the left bank of the nullah by which we had come, seemed to take a great interest in our arrival and camping arrangements, and supplied (on payment) a certain amount of fresh forage for the cattle and transport. At retreat the troops were told off to quarters and the usual picquet sentries were posted and outlying picquets marched off. As it grew dusk Waziri watch-fires sprang up all around, lighted by the friendly villagers of Ismail Khel, presumably to warn off evil spirits, or the enemy.

Tuesday, the 24th, saw the column on its way to Inzar Kach; the march, although difficult, being a short one and the new camp was reached by 12 o'clock. The road or rather path was up hill for three-quarters of the way, passing many springs of fresh water and then down again into the Kazha valley, which here was, if anything, more fertile than at Ismail Khel, with numerous villages or collections of dwellings. On arrival the camp was soon pitched on a capital piece of ground, though it had eventually to be somewhat curtailed, and an hour or so's work quickly completed the defensive wall, stones as usual being more plentiful than the proverbial blackberry. The altitude must have been considerable, too, as the air was most bracing with promise of a cold night. In the far distance hills of pine (which are not usually met with in this country at less than seven thousand feet above the sea level) could be seen, and all the villagers about had a sprig of fir in their *pagri*. Fresh forage was again obtainable and also eggs and chickens at a price. At night the usual friendly watch-fires burned brightly all around, and the cold was a decided change from Sheranni, a single blanket hardly being sufficient.

The next day was a rest except for "C" and "H" Companies, who went out with the Survey Officers and Sappers. The party

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had a longish day beating up the Afghan border near the boundary stone, marked on the map as No. 3. This was on a delightful grass plateau stretching for many miles, which would make an ideal camping ground; and the troops quite revelled on the turf, no such thing having been beneath their feet since leaving Bannu. Those left in camp were treated to an issue of quinine in the morning and all got a comforting "tot" of rum in the evening to keep out the cold.

On Thursday, 26th, the column was again on the move soon after seven, the first few miles being through the bed of the Kazha nullah; this, however, led too far to the south and the route lay east over some spurs to another nullah, broad, and with a good running stream of fresh water, which was reached about 10 o'clock. Here the brigade halted for breakfast, for which two hours was allowed, and then advanced again over a breezy upland from which the two leafy sentinels of "Dwa Nashta" could be plainly seen and some idea of their size obtained. After a march of about ten miles the camp at Dnga Nullah was reached, it being four in the afternoon before all the baggage had arrived. Then wall building, picquet mounting and a double issue of rum, and it was dark before every thing could settle down. As a tiffin, a special experimental ration, Maconochy's, had been issued and pronounced excellent, but insufficient, by the troops.

The march the next day was only supposed to be six miles, but this distance must have been estimated as the crow flies, as it was after twelve before the rear guard reached Sorati, the name of the camp, situated midway between Boya and Datta Khel on the left bank of the Tochi, opposite where the Spinchilla Kotal slopes downwards to the river. The way was mostly down hill and for the first part difficult, but afterwards led into a broad shady nullah to camp. The heat in the valley after the bracing air of the few previous days was rather oppressive and there were a few cases of fever. The camp was on a level piece of ground above the river and as usual had to be protected by a wall, after building which the troops were allowed a well earned and not unnecessary bathe in the river. The Tochi here seemed to be fairly thriving and well cultivated with several villages. The telegraph lines to Datta Khel run by here, there being two wires one on each side of the river, and these have been frequently cut, no doubt by the gentlemen who were now posing as peaceful agriculturists.

Orders issued in the evening directed the column to march right into Sheranni (about sixteen miles)—the following morning, a halt of one hour to be allowed at Datta Khel village for breakfast. The next day, Saturday 28th, saw the column on the homeward journey. A start was made at the usual hour, the route leading along the Tochi for the first four miles or so, the river having to be forded several times; after leaving the river bed and when Spinchilla height had been flanked a long nullah was entered which led into the Datta Khel plain about a mile from the post and on to the Sheranni road. Under the grateful shade of some trees and near some really excellent water the column halted, piled arms and fell out for breakfast, tea only being cooked, the men having "bully" and bread in their haversacks. During the halt the baggage arrived and went on direct to Sheranni with a convoy, the tents and kits being thus well on the road before the "fall in" was again ordered. The remainder of the march in the midday sun was rather trying and all were pleased when the tents and walls of Sheranni Camp came in sight, the natives testifying their pleasure by a delighted shout as each company came over the brow of a hill and the white tents of the standing camp appeared to their view. The regiment passed the Brigadier and his Staff in excellent style entering camp, and were soon settled down in their old lines again.

———— :o: ————

Our Camp at Sheranni.

—o—

We have now been in Sheranni just over two months and despite the many rumours of returning to Datta Khel it is still, at the end of September, a standing camp and the head-quarters of the first brigade; it is not by any means a charming place, and all will be heartily glad to leave it, remembering only its flies and wall building; still it has been our home, off and on, for seventy odd days, and an account of it and its surroundings may not be out of place.

Sheranni Camp is situated on what is called the TSIRAI, plain, which, with an average breadth of about two miles, stretches westwards from the Spinchalla Kotal and Datta Khel for several miles along the north of the Tochi, until that river is joined at right angles by the Shawal Algad below Maizar. The plain is much broken and intersected by nullahs and almost divided into about two equal parts by a ridge running north and south midway between Datta Khel and Sheranni; at the Maizar end, too, there are several ridges which cut it off from the Shawal valley and lock in the Maizar villages or kots.

The ground upon which the camp is pitched is now almost historical, as over it, or at least a few hundred yards to the south, the gallant little band from Maizar made its celebrated retreat, despite the ineffectual attempt of the

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swarms of Sherani villagers to cut it off, and its final stand, upon the arrival of reinforcements, was on the ridges that can be seen from camp about a mile or two to the eastward. The camp of Sheranni is, as the crow flies, about six miles from Datta Khel post and about eight by the road, which, since our arrival here, has received special attention from the Sappers and fatigue parties, and from a mere hill track has become quite a respectable Queen's highway; the camp is about three quarters of a mile above the river to the south, and about a mile south-east of Sheranni village, and with an altitude of about 4,500 feet is slightly higher than our hill station of Cherat.

The general shape of the camp, owing to the broken formation of the ground, is somewhat irregular and whilst the Rifle Brigade was in garrison was in two parts. The main enclosure is an irregular hexagon with four short and two long sides or like a very short and broad L, our position being the south-west corner or toe of the letter; on the west of the camp runs a somewhat broad and steep nullah forming an excellent protection—whilst on the east is a similar nullah though broader and shallower, where under the shade of a few mats the ubiquitous banniah has placed his stall and dispenses sweetmeat and other native delicacies at famine prices. Across this nullah is a smaller enclosure where the Rifle Brigade had their camp and also the 33rd Punjab Infantry's half battalion.

In the main enclosure is, of course, the Divisional and Brigade head-quarters with all the staff tents and offices lined along a broad and open road running east and west, a roadway branching south leads to our own corner. The Staff Mess is the only non-canvas structure in camp, and this is quite a work of art, built of bhusa bags with windows and doors complete. The post office is also about the centre of the camp, and for some time three enterprising merchants pitched their tents among us and must have done a thriving trade, frontier prices being *de rigeur*. Of course a large portion of the centre of the camp is set apart for the commissariat, but every one is most solicitous for their welfare, and their importance cannot be exaggerated. Next to the commissariat, in fact it is almost a question whether it is next, comes the water supply, and this for the first few weeks was drawn from the Tochi river; afterwards, however, the Sappers sank half a dozen wells, a great improvement, especially when the Tochi was in flood, a not infrequent occurrence, when the water was of a pea-soupy consistency. Each of the wells was numbered and set apart for the different regiments and departments.

Our readers will be mostly interested in a more minute description of the south-west corner, where as previously stated, the Ninety-third camp is situated. The regimental camp occupies a piece of ground about one hundred yards square, surrounded on three sides by a wall and having two main entrances; around this wall are ranged the company tents in the usual alphabetical order, the quarter-guard facing south is in the centre and covering the main entrance; within this row of tents are the Officers' Mess, Orderly-room, Officers' tents and Coffee shop with numerous paths and bye-ways leading to and from them; the fourth side abuts on the main camp and is occupied by the regimental transport.

Of course, a camp of the description has to be protected; and to guard against surprise day and night picquets are placed at convenient posts. The day picquets have been numbered I to X, and vary in strength from six to twelve men with a non-commissioned officer; some are found by the regiment daily, whilst others are detailed from the brigade, the most distant ones being furnished from the cavalry. The picquets on the river or north flank of the camp have, in addition to their other duties, to protect cattle and transport animals watering, and bathing parties who are allowed to bathe in the river any time before 9 A. M. daily.

No. III picquet is a daily regimental detail, the post being on a ridge about twelve hundred yards from camp overlooking and commanding the road to Maizar. No. X, or Sheranni village picquet, frequently found by the regiment, is just above the village and at the foot of the same ridge or spur, which continues upwards to the south for several miles when it joins the main range running east and west, the watershed of the Tochi, dividing it from South Waziristan and the Gomal Valley, culminating in many peaks 10,000 and 11,000 feet high, towards which several reconnoissances have been made and where the Waziris have their summer encampments.

The night picquets are accommodated in fairly substantial block houses built in the usual *sangar* pattern, but much stronger, and could be held against a large number of the enemy; their garrison is one sergeant and twenty men, who mount daily at "retreat." The western picquet, about one hundred yards to the west of our camp, is found by our men, and as its name implies protects the west flank from surprise, whilst a similar picquet-house east of camp guards that flank; there is also a strong block house north of camp overlooking the last resting place of many generations of Sherannyites, which stretches away north and west towards the river and contains many hundreds of graves

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that would afford excellent cover for a determined enemy, the native troops at this end of the camp, however, are most experienced frontier men, and the few spasmodic attempts made by the enemy's snipers to get to close quarters have so far met with ill-success.

It would be impossible to give the disposition of the garrison at all times, as there have been so many and such frequent changes. At one time there were as many as four-and-a-half battalions of infantry in garrison with ten guns, and the Cavalry and Sappers, whilst at others little more than 1,200 men have been left in for duty. During the absence of both columns the regimental camp was abandoned, an additional wall being built across the north end, so that the defences could be curtailed and our detachment was moved in behind this wall. When available a couple of guns were usually kept on the right flank of the regimental camp commanding the west, or as it was called "Two-tree nullah"; our neighbours on the left, too, have always been the 1st Sikhs who have lined the remainder of the north and all the east face. Except the Rifle Brigade, who during their stay occupied the east enclosure, the movements of the other regiments have been more or less uncertain until finally the 1st Punjab Infantry have been entirely withdrawn for garrison duty at other posts, and although of the 1st Brigade, seldom more than half the 33rd Punjab Infantry have at one time been in garrison here, whilst the Artillery and Sappers have always been on the move. At present it seems more than probable the new camping ground about a mile nearer Datta Khel will be taken up upon the return of the Kazha Column and that Sheranni will be abandoned as being unhealthy. This selection of a new ground hardly suggests the early departure from here that seems so dear to the hearts of all rumourists, but rather to the fact that some time yet will be spent by the regiment in this part of the Tochi Valley.

BAKHSHIS.—The present frontier expedition will, it is safe to say, differ not one iota from its predecessors in the merry game of peculation, falsification of field accounts, bogus purchases of draught cattle, stores, munitions of war and supplies, says *Capital*. A gentleman travelling up country some little time ago had for his companion in the train a glib and garrulous Babu, who in the course of conversation admitted that his share of plunder in one of our recent frontier expeditions, mainly made out of mules, was Rs. 30,000! This man's pay was only Rs. 15 a month. There were, it seems, four or five transport officials, contractors, *et hoc genus*, in this profitable little deal, a couple of them being British officers, each of whom "made" Rs. 40,000; another British officer who, although head over heels in debt, as the saying is, was too honest to have anything to do with this departmental transaction, has since sent in his papers. He might have stopped in his regiment, "honourably" paid his debts and been a happy man; but then he preferred honesty to rupees.

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it didna seem tae be in the richt place ava.

That even on the lines of communication there seems tae be mair fun than in Sheranni.

That a few chiels wha were sae anxious tae get a medal are no sae anxious noo.

That the brigade sports were a great success.

That the regiment cudna' hae done much better.

That the interest o' the 9 and 3 will be well looked intae for the next fouer years.

That the Depie cudna' be in better hands.

That it has been gettin' its haund in for gain' hame.

That twa an' a hauf hours wi' a pick and shovel gies ane a guid appetite for breakfast.

That the Waziris need be in strong numbers tae rush the camp.

That Waziri stanes and Hielan' shoes dinna seem tae agree sae vera weel.

That unfortunately the Hielan' shoe has generally come off second best tho' perhaps tae weel for the wearer.

That there are a few Waziris aboot but they are a' ca'd friendlies.

That it's queer wha does the "Snipin'" tho'.

That the Madda Khel Maliks seem unco' bashful.

That some of the T. E. men are gettin' in them jist a wee bit.

That it 'll no be sorry tae leave Sheranni.

That this disna' seem likely tho' for a wee bit yet.

That it wull be able tae dae with the "garm" clothin' whin it arrives.

That its no had such guid health as it wud like.

That it's luckier than the Rifles tho' in this respect.

That the *pani* seems tae be the chief cause o' it.

That noo the weather's a bit cooler it's improvin.

That the second column wis jist a bit langer than wis expected.

That sae wis some o' the mairches.

That the pultan wis in gran' form tho.'

That it had a gran' appetite tae.

That worst o' a' there wis vera little tae appease it wi.

That condemned roti went high at fower annas a loaf.

That tobacco ran short.

That some queer mixtures wis smoked o' times.

That the Brigadier was weel pleased.

That it hopes h'll no forget his promise aboot Tirah.

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Letter to the Editor.

—o—

BARDOWIE,
Milngavie, N. B.,
16th July 1897.

DEAR SIR,

ON rummaging out some old papers, I came across the enclosed. At a glance it looks like a very old disused "disorderly" officer's report, but the names on it are those of the Adjutant (the late Captain Croker), and the Staff Sergeants and Sergeants of the 93rd Highlanders at the Curragh in 1878. I am sorry to say that I have lost the photograph to which it refers, but perhaps the Quartermaster can help you as his name is on the right of the third line.

Kinnaird	was	Sergeant-Major.
Captain Forbes	,,	Q. M. S.
Meldrum	,,	Pipe-Major.
Duff	,,	Drum-Major.
Logie	,,	P. M. S.
Bates	,,	Armourer-Sergeant.
Taylor	,,	Sergeant I of M.
Cameron	,,	Pioneer-Sergeant.
McLennan	,,	Canteen-Sergeant
McWilliams	,,	Officers' Mess Sergeant.

Colour-Sergeants were, as far as I can remember, with their Companies.

"A"	Company	.. Color-Sergeant Whittaker.
"K"	,,	... Alex. Ross.
"G"	,,	... Wm. Beattie.
"D"	,,	... John McLauchlan (served in the 1863 fight, now dead: served in 3rd Battalion for many years).
"F"	,,	... Alex. McRae (now Q. M., 4th Battalion).
"C"	,,	... J. Scott (dead); and Color-Sergeant Cook (Mutiny and 1863 medals and G. C. M.).

I can't remember the other one "E."

In the Band were:

Sergeant Kerr (1863 medal and G C. M.), and Lance Sergeant Stevenson (Mutiny, 1863 and G. C. Medals).

Transport-Sergeant—Roderick Gordon.

I suppose, as I write this, the dear old regiment may be fighting. God bless them and protect them from all evil in the way of fever, bullets and Afghan knives, is the devout wish of

Yours truly,

ALFRED MIDDLETON,

Late Captain, 93rd Highlanders.

I wish I was with "A" Company now.

The names on the back of the Orderly Officer's Report, enclosed by Captain Middleton, are as follows:—

STEVENSON, MELDRUM, A. ROSS, DUFF, WHITTAKER, W. BEATTIE, CUMMINGS, MURRAY, COCHRANE, YOUNGSON, GILLIES, GORDON, MCKAY, LOGIE, MCDONALD, TOCHER, MCLACHLAN, MILLER, BRETT, R. GORDON, DIVERTY, MCDERMAID, SIDDONS, MUTCH, MCLENNAN, SCOTT, FRASER, BATES, TAYLOR, MCWILLIAMS, KERR, CHRISTIE, GALASHAN, A. BEATTIE, WRIGHT, MCLEOD, MCKENZIE, TOWNSEND, MCLEOD, REDPATH, KINNAIRD, CROKER, FORBES, COOK, D. ROSS, MCLAUGHLIN, MCRAE, MCRAE, MATHEWS, CAMERON, MCDONALD, CAMPBELL, D. ROSS, VENIS, THOMPSON.

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List of Prize Winners at the 1st Brigade Sports.

—o—

100 YARDS FLAT RACE.

Sergeant Oldfield,	3rd Rifle Brigade	...	,,	...	1
Private Thomas	,, ,,	...	...	...	2
Acting Corporal Stratford	,,	...	...	...	3

PUTTING THE STONE.

Private McInnes	"B"	Company, Ninety-third		...	1
Corporal Reid	"D"	,,	,, ,,	...	2
Private Fraser	"F"	,,	,, ,,	...	3
,, Allan	"D"	,,	,, ,,	...	4
,, Cross	"D"	,,	,, ,,	...	5

LLOYD-LINDSAY COMPETITION.

Teams of four

"E" Company's team Ninety-third 1

TUG OF WAR.

Ninety-third Highlanders 1

Team—Lieutenant A. H. Maclean, Privates McInnes, Ferguson and Scott, "B" Company; Corporal Reid and Privates Allan and Cross, "D" Company, and Private Wright, "H" Company.

KHUD RACE.

Private Clements,	"C"	Company	...	...	1
,, Thomas,	3rd Rifle Brigade		...	...	2
,, Mossman,	"B"	Company	...	...	3
,, Comrie,	"H"	,,	...	...	4
,, Allan,	"D"	,,	...	...	5
Lance-Corporal Wellington,	"E"	Company	...	...	6

Troops for the Tirah Expedition.

—o—

THE MAIN COLUMN.

FIRST DIVISION.

First Brigade.

2nd Battalion, The Derbyshire Regiment.
1st ,, The Devonshire ,,
2nd ,, 1st Gurkha (Rifle) Regiment.
30th (Punjab) Regiment of Bengal Infantry.

Second Brigade.

2nd Battalion, The Yorkshire Regiment.
1st ,, The Royal West Surrey Regiment.
2nd ,, 4th Gurkha (Rifle) Regiment.
3rd Regiment of Sikh Infantry, Punjab Frontier Force.

Divisional Troops.

No. 1 Mountain Battery, Royal Artillery.
No. 2 (Derajat) Mountain Battery.
No. 1 (Kohat) ,, ,,
Two Squadrons, 18th Regiment of Bengal Lancers.
28th Regiment of Bombay Infantry (Pioneers).
No. 3 Company, Bombay Sappers and Miners.
No. 4 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
One Printing Section, Bombay Sappers and Miners.
The Kapurthala Regiment of Imperial Service Infantry.
The Maler Kotla Imperial ServiceSpapers.

SECOND DIVISION.

Third Brigade.

1st Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders.
1st ,, The Dorsetshire Regiment.
1st ,, 2nd Gurkha (Rifle) Regiment.
15th (The Ludhiana Sikh) Regiment of Bengal Infantry.

Fourth Brigade.

2nd Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
1st ,, The Northampton Regiment.
1st ,, 3rd Gurkha (Rifle) Regiment.
36th (Sikh) Regiment of Bengal Infantry.

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Divisional Troops.

No. 8 Mountain Battery, Royal Artillery.
No. 9 „ „ „ „
No. 5 (Bombay) Mountain Battery.
Machine Gun Detachment, 16th Lancers.
Two Squadrons, 18th Regiment of Bengal Lancers.
21st Regiment of Madras Infantry (Pioneers).
No. 4 Company, Madras Sappers and Miners.
One Printing Section, Madras Sappers and Miners.
The Jhind Regiment of Imperial Service Infantry.
The Sirmur Imperial Service Sappers.

LINE OF COMMUNICATION.

22nd (Punjab) Regiment of Bengal Infantry.
2nd Battalion, 2nd Gurkha (Rifle) Regiment.
39th (Garhwal Rifle) Regiment of Bengal Infantry.
2nd Regiment of Punjab Infantry, Punjab Frontier Force.
3rd Regiment of Bengal Infantry.
The Jeypore Imperial Service Transport Corps.
The Gwalior „ „ „ „
Ordnance Field Park.
Engineer „ „

THE PESHAWAR COLUMN.

2nd Battalion, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
2nd „ The Oxfordshire Light Infantry.
9th Gurkha (Rifle) Regiment of Bengal Infantry.
45th (Rattray's Sikh) Regiment of Bengal Infantry.
57th Field Battery, Royal Artillery.
No. 3 Mountain Battery, Royal Artillery.
9th Regiment of Bengal Lancers.
No. 5 Company, Bengal Sappers and Miners.

THE KURRAM MOVEABLE COLUMN.

12th Regiment of Bengal Infantry.
The Nabha Regiment of Imperial Service Infantry.
3rd Field Battery, Royal Artillery, 4 guns.
6th Regiment of Bengal Cavalry.
One Regiment of Central India Horse.

THE RAWALPINDI RESERVE BRIGADE.

2nd Battalion, The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.
1st „ The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.
27th Regiment (1st Baluch) Regiment of Bombay (Light) Infantry.
2nd Regiment of Infantry, Hyderabad Contingent.
Jodhpur Imperial Service Lancers.

COMMANDS.

THE MAIN COLUMN.

Lieutenant-General Commanding the Force—General Sir W. S. A. Lockhart, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.
Commanding First Division—(with local rank of Major-General) Brigadier-General W. P. Symons, C.B.
Commanding First Brigade—Colonel I. S. M. Hamilton, C.B., D.S.O. (with temporary rank of Brigadier-General.
Commanding Second Brigade—Brigadier-General A. Gasclee, C.B., A.D.C.
Commanding Second Division—Major-General A. G. Yeatman-Biggs, C.B.
Commanding Third Brigade—(with temporary rank of Brigadier General) Colonel F. J. Kempster, D.S.O., A.D.C.
Commanding Fourth Brigade—Brigadier-General R. Westmacott

LINE OF COMMUNICATION.

General Officer Commanding—Lieutenant-General Sir A. P, Palmer, K.C.B.

THE PESHAWAR COLUMN.

Commanding—Brigadier-General A. C. Hammonds, C.B., D.S.O. V.A.C., A.D.C.

THE KURRAM MOVEABLE COLUMN.

Commanding—Colonel W. Hill, Indian Staff Corps.

THE RAWALPINDI RESERVE BRIGADE.

Commanding—Brigadier-General C. R. Macgregor, D.S.O.

The above is the composition of the force to operate against the Afridis and Orakzais in Tirah, which has never previously been entered by a British Force. General hospitals for the Main Column will be formed at Rawal pindi and for the Peshawar Column at Nowshera. The line of communication extends to Khushalgarh, which will be temporaily served from the Punjab Command. Kohat will be the base of operations for the Main and Kurram Moveable Column, whilst that of the Peshawar Column will be at Peshawar.

The second Kazha Column.

—o—

On the 9th September, 350 men of the regiment marched to Datta Khel to join a column proceeding to the Kazha valley under the command of Brigadier-General Symons, C. B.,, Commanding the 2nd Brigade Tochi Field Force; the composition of the force being as under—

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders 350; 14th Sikhs 520; 1st Punjab Infantry 500; 2 guns No. 3 (Peshawar) Mountain Battery; 2 Companies Sappers and Miners; 40 sabres, 1st Punjab Cavalry.

Major-General Corrie Bird, C. B., and the divisional staff accompanied the force which encamped about one mile west of Datta Khel post. The following officers of the regiment went out:—Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, Major Campbell, Captains Wolrige-Gordon Mackenzie and Sutherland; Lieutenants Bell, Campbell Harvey, and Beattie. Unfortunately after arrival at Datta Khel camp, Lieutenant Bell had an attack of fever and had to be sent back, Lieutenant Tweedie coming out to replace him.

The column left Datta Khel on the morning of the 11th, and marched to Sorati, where we occupied the same ground we camped on, on the 27th August.

On the 12th we formed part of an advanced party which marched at 4 A. M. with the Sappers and Miners, to improve the road in one or two bad places. We went up the bed of the Duga Algad for two or three miles, and then lost our way, having taken a wrong turning which delayed us nearly an hour, but reached camp at a place called Isham about 9 A. M. The camp was on a well levelled piece of ground between two small villages. In the afternoon orders were issued or a march to Bibi the following morning, but these which were only issued apparently to deceive any natives hanging about the camp, were cancelled later and orders issued for an infantry column 900 strong, to parade at 2 A. M. and march to a village believed to be only 3 miles distant, in which it was expected that Sadda Khan might be captured as he frequently came in there. General Symons and Staff accompanied the force, which took no mules or horses with it these being orderd to move up to meet us with the guns about 5 A. M., while the remaining infantry, under Major Campbell, were to march at 7 A. M. to Bibi with the baggage.

The column fell in the next morning with such silence and precision as to elicit a complimentary order from the Brigadier-General and moved off up the river bed. It soon became evident that a mistake had been made about the distance, due probably to native ideas about distance and the incorrectness of the maps. The villages we passed all appeared to be abso-

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lutely uninhabited, and though we occasionally heard dogs barking no one was seen except a party of four men surprised and taken prisoners in a rush by F. Company, which formed the advanced guard. The road gradually became worse and was clearly impracticable for mules. On arriving at one very bad place where two streams joined, the detachment of the 1st Punjab Infantry was sent up the west nullah while we took that leading east. After some very rough scrambling we arrived at a Kotal overlooking the village of Dadam, and here we halted for dinner. The signallers got into communication with the 1st Punjab Infantry, who reported that they had been fired on and had consequently taken all the cattle belonging to the native camp near, and had also taken all arms they could find. A party of the 14th Sikhs was sent into Dadam, which they found deserted. In one of the houses a number of armourer's tools 'made in Germany' were discovered, and a few guns under repair. These were all confiscated and brought back into camp. The column started on the return march about 2 P. M. and was considerably delayed by the cattle, sheep and goats captured by the 1st Punjab Infantry, in all about 200.

Shortly after we started we had a sharp rain and hailstorm which wetted us all through. Two ancient ladies turned out as we passed the place the cattle were taken from and cursed us volubly, indulging also in a little stone-throwing. The Waziri lady does not appear to be better at throwing stones than the English one, and we can imagine the Waziri reports on the day's proceedings stating in official phraseology "Enemies' loss not known." The return march was a long one, and as we had lost communication with the signallers we did not know exactly for some time where the camp was. Eventually we arrived in a new camp at Pirakai at 7 P. M., where we were glad to find our tents pitched for us. The official estimate of the distance marched that day was 28 miles, and few, if any, of those who did it, will believe that it was less. It was a most unpleasant surprise for several who went out expecting to be back in camp in time for breakfast. The following was issued by Assistant Adjutant General:—

"I am directed by the Major-General Commanding the Field Force to convey to you his entire satisfaction at the manner in which the work was carried out by the column under your command on the 13th instant. The Major-General highly commends the endurance of all ranks during the long and trying march to Dadam and back."

* * * * * *

The guns and cavalry had an unpleasant experience getting into camp in the afternoon, the result of the storm alluded to above. In the very narrow nullahs in which streams in these parts run, a storm in the hills brings down a torrent which comes down like a wall and the detachment of the Mountain Battery was caught in one of these. One mule was drowned and some ammunition boxes lost, while there were several narrow escapes amongst the gunners, one of whom has since been recommended for the Humane Society's Medal for saving the life of a comrade.

Nothing exciting occurred on the 14th and 15th, though on the night of the 14th Lieutenant Tweedie had a somewhat chilly night on picquet on a high hill west of camp. On the 16th a convoy of sick was sent back to Boya, Lieutenant Campbell who had been suffering from fever included. It was with much regret that we heard this day of the deaths of Captain Tomkins and Lieutenant Bailey of the 38th Dogras, our neighbours in Nowshera.

On the 17th and 18th survey and reconnaissance parties were out, but nothing of any general interest occurred. On the 19th we marched to Ismail Khel and camped within a stone's throw almost of our camping ground at Zuram Atsar of 23rd August. On the following day General Symons received the news of his appointment to command a column in the Tirah Field Force and left for Kohat, Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh succeeding to the command of the column. On the 21st we had to part with a further detachment of mules, the first lot having been taken away from us at Pirakai, and since then we have been principally equipped with camels and have to a great degree lost our mobility. On the 24th the staff of the 2nd Brigade was recalled and left for Mirian Shah, and Captain Sutherland was appointed to act as Staff Officer. On the 25th we marched to Bibi, estimated at 9 miles, passing on the way our old camping ground at Inzar Kach. The camp was on a sloping but fairly even bit of ground, just above a small village, but was commanded from three sides by higher ground, necessitating a large number of picquets being employed. The march followed up the bed of the Surtoi river, passing a number of villages and a great deal of cultivation. One of the first things we saw on getting into camp was a hare, and an officer of the 14th Sikhs shot five in the afternoon. Only two shots were fired into camp that night, without effect except upon the villagers, who howled out to the snipers not to fire any more or the army would blow up their towers in the morning.

On the 26th, 300 infantry went to a village about a mile and-a-half below camp and destroyed two houses and the crops of a man who had been harbouring Sadda Khan, returning with many loads of *bhoosa* and Indian corn.

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Throughout the morning large numbers of natives watched the proceedings from the neighbouring villages, but no attempt at any resistance was made, nor was there any sniping that night. On the 27th we marched back to Ismail Khel, the battalion furnishing the rear guard which was somewhat delayed by the camels. The natives all appeared to be most friendly. We camped again on our old ground, and marched back to Datta Khel on the morning of the 28th, passing over the Krum Pass by a road which had been made by the Sappers and Miners about 10 days before. On arrival at Datta Khel the detachment of the 1st Punjab Infantry moved into the post while the remainder formed a fresh camp rather near the post than the one we originally started from and in sight of it.

Lieutenant Campbell rejoined from Miriau Shah, to which place he had been sent sick from Isham, but afterwards went into Datta Khel post to join the Divisional Staff as Field Intelligence Officer. We stayed in Datta Khel till the 2nd October and then marched into Sheranni and formed a new camp about a mile east of the old one and close to the village of Ziarat.

DEATHS.

MARTIN.—At Datta Khel, on the 10th August 1897, No. 5053, Private J. Martin, "F" Company, of enteric fever.

BROOM.—At Miran Shah, on the 1st September 1897, No. 3460, Private J. Broom, "E" Company, of dysentery.

SCOTT.—At Sheranni, on the 5th September 1897, No. 4384, Private Scott, "C" Company, of enteric fever.

SMITH.—At Miran Shah, on the 9th September 1897 No. 3947, Private Smith, "F" Company, of abscess.

WILSON.—At Miran Shah, on the 14th September 1897 No. 3460, Private R. Wilson, "E" Company, of dysentery.

MCALLISTER.—At Datta Khel, on the 16th September 1897, No. 4318, Private J. McAllister, "G" Company, of dysentery.

MCKENZIE.—At Miran Shah, on the 16th September 1897, No. 4541, Piper J. Mackenzie, "C" Company of dysentery.

GOLLAN.—At Datta Khel, on the 17th September 1897, No. 2534, Private Colin Gollan, "B" Company, of dysentery

MCMILLAN.—At Sheranni, on the 25th September 1897, No. 4880, Private McMillan, "H" Company, of enteric fever.

BROWN.—At Sherani, on the 27th September 1897, No. 3988, Private Brown, "F" Company, of dysentery.

CRAWFORD.—At Sherani, on the 28th September, 1897, No. 4899, Private Crawford, "G" Company, of dysentery.

MCGEE.—At Miran Shah, on the 30th September 1897, No. 4370, Private D. McGee, "B" Company, of dysentery.

MCCORMACK.—At Datta Khel, on the 30th September 1897, No. 4844, Private McCormack, "C" Company, of dysentery.

DIPPER.—At Datta Khel, on the 30th September 1897, No. 4103, Lance-Corporal Dipper, "G" Company, of dysentery.

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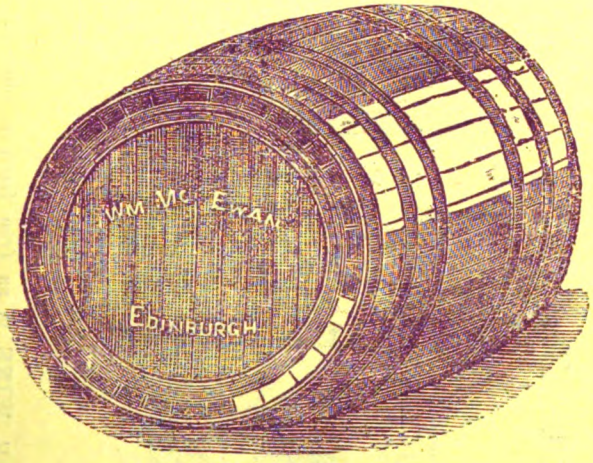

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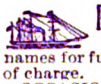

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 11—Vol. III. TOCHI VALLEY,—DECEMBER 1897. Price, 3 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE rumour that haunted Sheranni during the month of September turned out in the main to be correct: the camp was shifted, although only about a mile, towards Datta Khel, and at present bears the name of Ziarat, a friendly Khiddar Khel village known by that name being about half a mile to the north on the bank of the Tochi river.

* * * * * *

Head-quarters and the returning Kazha Column, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, marched from Datta Khel on the 2nd October and occupied ground somewhat to the north of the present camp. The following day, according to an apparently ancient custom, the camp was changed, the whole day being occupied in moving stores, clearing the ground for encamping, and laying the foundation of the usual substantial wall. The majority of the detachment in Sheranni proper did not rejoin head-quarters, as they were to form a part of Brigadier-General Egerton's Shawal Column, which advanced towards Dotoi on the 4th October; the old camp was therefore not abandoned until that date, when the Shawal Column, which had collected there, marched out.

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On the 4th all stores, sick and details removed from old Sheranni to the new camp, the day and many following being an almost endless fatigue; about forty men too, whose boots were in good condition were transferred from head-quarters to Sheranni to complete the two hundred rifles for the Shawal Column together with Major Campbell, Captain Wolrige Gordon and Second-Lieutenant Harvey.

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The new camp at Ziarat is not nearly so extensive as Sheranni, only about four hundred of our own men, and an equal number of the 14th Sikhs (who will be our neighbours at

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Nowsher should we ever ago back there), two guns of No. 3 (Peshawar) Mountain Battery, details of the 1st Sikhs and 33rd Punjab and some of the 1st Punjab Cavalry, in all about 1,200 men, being in garrison. On the 12th October a party proceeded to the Shawatgholai Pass, leaving at 6-30 A.M. and returning late in the afternoon, the only refreshment taken being a "bully" beef sandwich. One hundred and thirty-five rifles from ours and an equal number from the 1st and 14th Sikhs went out together with the only two guns of the Mountain Battery.

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On the following day a similar party went out in a southerly direction, and during their absence there was a great scare in camp, a large force of the enemy being reported as advancing from the Maizar road. The alarm sounded, and the walls were lined by all available men. The enemy, however, turned out to be ninety odd Afghan merchants from Kabul making their way to India and the camp quickly resumed its wonted peacefulness. No. III, or as it has been re-numbered No. II, picket, of only half a dozen men, had a very exciting and busy time on this occasion ascertaining that the Afghan visitors had nothing of a more warlike nature about their persons than rolls of bank-notes and bags of rupees.

* * * * * *

The rear-guard of a mixed convoy escort returning with camels from the Dotoi direction on the 8th was fired into from the hills above Maizar. The convoy halted and waited for developments, but only five shots were fired without effect, the enemy evidently not being in any force.

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The G. O. C. Tochi Field Force visited the new camp on the 9th, General Bird being on a tour of inspection from Miran Shah, where the new divisional head-quarters have been established. The P. M. O. also visited the camp and hospital.

* * * * * *

A party of native infantry have been in the habit of finding pickets at Sheranni village nightly, and early one morning their patience was rewarded by a party of Mada Khel being seen near Turmor. Unfortunately one of the groups fired, which alarmed the Waziris, or they might have been secured.

* * * * * *

A most amusing sequel to this is the fact that the nocturnal visitors have sent in a protest through the political officer complaining (although the enemy) at having been fired at. The situation is too ludicrous for words, and shows the spirit of the pampered enemy against whom we have to deal. Probably their next departure will be to demand compensation for the destruction of their villages, or rent for our occupation of the camping grounds at Sheranni and other places.

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The 6th Madras Infantry originally destined for Kohat have been added to the garrison of Bannu.

* * * * * *

On the 20th October inspection of the battalion and camp by our Brigadier took place. General Egerton arrived soon after nine o'clock and inspected each company in its own lines and seemed well pleased with everything. He afterwards visited the hospital, where arrangements were being made to send all possible sick back to Datta Khel or some other post on the line of communication, as no British troops were to remain in Sheranni after the 23rd.

* * * * * *

A football match between teams representing the second Kazha and the Shawal columns took place this afternoon on the old sports ground. The match caused no little excitement, partisans of both parties being strongly represented among the spectators, "Egerton's column" appearing to be the favourites. The match resulted in a win for the Shawal representatives by two goals to one. In addition to most of the officers, our Brigadier was present and seemed to enjoy the match and the enthusiasm of the spectators immensely.

The following were the teams:—

Shawal Column.—Privates Daly "H" (Goal); Kerr "B," Brown "A" (Backs); Mitchell "A," Hamilton "E," Lance-Corporal Guy Watson "A" (Half Backs); Privates Fox, "F," Forbes "G," Lance-Corporal Watson "F," Private McAulay "G," and Lance-Corporal Doyle "G" (Forwards).

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Kazha Column.—Drummer Gracie "C" (Goal); Privates Kennedy "E," Johnson "C" (Backs); Lance-Corporal Adcock "B," Privates McLean "E," Allan "D" (Half Backs); Pollock "D," Hutton "B," Cairns "C," Henry "B," Clements "C" (Forwards).

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The equestrian statue of Lord Roberts to be erected in Calcutta has arrived at that place, and will be unveiled by the Viceroy about the middle of December. The statue is bronze, the metal being obtained from fourteen guns, and when mounted will be supported by two minor figures representing "War" and "Victory."

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Black and White are sending a special artist up with the Tirah Force. It is to be hoped that sketches of the forthcoming Afridi campaign appearing in that paper may be more authentic than those that have appeared of other expeditions.

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Presentations of the "Order of Merit" to the Native officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 1st Sikhs for distinguished bravery at Maizar took place on the 22nd. All the troops in Sheranni paraded at 7-30 A.M., and received General Egerton with the usual salute. Immediately afterwards four officers and nine rank and file paraded in front of General Egerton, who pinned the medal of the Order on the breast of each. A Sikh *langri*, or cook, who had distinguished himself by saving a box of ammunition at Maizar, was also presented with the medal, and appeared to be immensely proud of it, turning the decoration over and over many times, and looking down at his left breast continually—a great contrast to the stolid behaviour of his military comrades, who without a glance at their decoration, and as stiff as the proverbial grenadier, rejoined their places in the ranks.

The troops then marched to their quarters passing the General in column of route.

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On the following day the third Kazha Column was to have left Sheranni, but instead of this the whole force paraded at an early hour and reconnoitred the Shawal Valley. The battalion accompanied by No. 3 Mountain Battery, and with whom was General Egerton, paraded at 5-15, reached Gurgwasta about 7 o'clock, and surprised some Madda Khel who were in the village. The enemy fired at some scouts of the 33rd P. I. who were in front of the column, but the fire was immediately returned, and our advance guard, commanded by Captain Wolrige Gordon, dashed across the Shawal river and tried to cut off the retreat of a few Waziris who were trying to make off by the hills to the north. There was quite a sharp fusilade for some minutes from a few of our leading files, and two or three of the enemy were seen to fall. "Cease fire" and the "Retire" sounded immediately afterwards, however, and the advance guard joined the main body, which proceeded three or four miles further up the stream until a friendly village was reached, when pickets were posted, and the column fell out for about two hours. The latter part of the march up the river bed was very trying through the icy cold and rapid running water, and there was not even the genial warmth of the sun, the nullah being deep, with precipitous and overhanging banks that promised an almost perpetual shade. After the cold of the water and the nullah's shade it was quite a pleasure to bask in the sun on the few stubble plateaux below the village, which had not as yet been prepared for the spring crops.

The return march was uneventful and the water of the Shawal not quite so cold; the column was in camp just before 4 P.M., after a fairly good day's work.

The 1st Sikhs were out earlier than our column in the direction of Charmina, but nothing resulted from the reconnaissance.

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The next day, Sunday, after church parade preparations were made for the following day's advance to the Kazha. On Monday 25th, the anniversary of Balaclava, all were astir by half-past five, the battalion parading at 7-30 and proceeding *vid* the Sheranni Narai to Ismail Khel; the camp occupied was close to Ismail Khel village, the same as occupied by General Symons' column last month. The battalion arrived soon after one o'clock in the afternoon, repairing the

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defensive wall and making all secure. There was of course no "Balaclava Day" celebration, though the pipers played an extra skirl at "Tattoo," and the usual issue of a tot of rum allowed all those who were so inclined to toast the heroes of the "thin red line."

* * * * * *

The following day the column advanced to Inzarkach, where it was reported we were to spend about a month. The camp here was on the ground occupied by the first column and a very substantial wall was built, three days being spent in its construction : all the camp, too, was cleared of stones, and the majority of the staff tents had low stone and mud walls constructed round them to keep all snug within, everything promising a longish stay. Eggs, fowls and fresh vegetables of the carrot species were fairly plentiful, an impromptu bazaar being established in a nullah east of camp, where the produce of the country could be bargained for according to one's knowledge of Pushtu and depth of purse. Forage for cattle had also to be purchased and firewood, and the natives must have made rather a good thing out of our stay here. No wonder they are not anxious that we should depart, and that frontier outbreaks are of such frequent occurrence.

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On the 31st October, Sadda Khan, the Sheranni Malik, who has been much wanted and was supposed to be the instigator of the Maizar outrage, surrendered himself to General Corrie Bird, who had joined the column at Ismail Khel, and his surrender is not improbably the "beginning of the end" of the present Tochi expedition, as it has certainly completely changed the aspect of affairs in this region and curtailed our stay in camp at Inzarkach.

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The column broke up on the 8th, the Mountain Battery and the 33rd Punjab Infantry returning to Datta Khel with the General Officer Commanding, whilst ours, together with General Egerton and the Cavalry and Sappers, marched to Pirikai, occupying the camping ground of the 13th September, where the regiment returnd after its long march to Dadam. The march from Inzarkach, was a trying one for camels, and it was after one before the baggage was in camp. Pirikai camp, was on a level plateau above the Sortoi nullah, near where General Bird and the Mountain Battery were nearly caught in a mountain torrent, but being commanded by hills on every side required many pickets for its protection.

Several reconnaisances towards the Afghan border were made whilst in camp here, one hundred men being detailed daily for this duty.

* * * * *

On the afternoon of the 11th orders were received by helio to return to Ismail Khel on the following day if possible, as the Madda Khel Maliks, under Sadda Khan's persuasion, had arranged to come in and accept the Government terms, and a "Jirga" would be held on that day.

The morning of the 12th, therefore, saw the regiment on its way down the Sortoi nullah to Ismail Khel, which was reached about noon. This time the old camp of the first Kazha Column was occupied overlooking the village of Zaram Atsar, near which it was intended to hold the Jirga.

There was wall-building in the afternoon to strengthen the defences, which were naturally strong, and usual outlying pickets occupied all commanding heights.

On the next day, Saturday 13th, the majority of the Madda Khel headmen arrived in camp, there being great excitement among our men as the little conclave of Waziri horsemen, mounted on their wiry ponies, with quaint high-peaked wooden saddles, and quainter bridles and stirrups —the riders all more or less gorgeously attired in a variety of much-coloured clothing— made its way down the nullah towards the village of Zaram Atsar, where it halted and dismounted. Following the horsemen came a somewhat larger party on foot, followers and retainers no doubt, a motley crew dressed in the usual dirty apparel of Waziri villagers, who halted in the nullah outside the village and squatted down awaiting the orders of their chiefs. By the evening several hundred of the inhabitants of the de-

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stroyed villages of Sheranni and Maizar must have been in Zaram Atsar and bright fires burned in the village till early the next morning, many local parliaments, no doubt, discussing the situation, and the forgiving and easy-going manners of the "Sircar."

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On the following day, Sunday 14th, the G. O. C. held a durbar, when the terms of the surrender of the proscribed men were arranged, and a satisfactory settlement was evidently arrived at, for on the following morning, when the battalion left, all the baggage escorted by "B" and "G" Companies left camp for Kanirogha three hours or so before the battalion paraded to march for the same place—a sure sign of the cessation of hostilities.

This march to Kanirogha was a fairly longish one of about fifteen miles, and as it was eleven o'clock before the battalion parade, it was pretty late before Kanirogha was reached. No walls, however, had to be built, and there were no outlying night pickets, this duty being left to the Frontier Police, a levy post being close at hand.

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Our stay at Kanirogha lasted until the 17th, when the battalion marched to Boya to relieve the 14th Sikhs, who marched out the following day to Miran Shah to join a column visiting and repairing boundary stones on the Afghan frontier. Boya was reached just before eleven, the regiment going into camp north of the post, except "C" and "E" Companies, who were encamped within the walls.

Duty in Boya is fairly heavy: four guards mount daily, together with convoy escorts half way to Datta Khel and Miran Shah, and camel-grazing and other guards and escorts. There are no outlying night pickets, however, and there has been no wall-building, orders being expected at an early date sending us back to India.

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On the 20th a bonfire concert was held in the Commissariat yard, a stage being constructed of "bully" meat boxes with a covering of tarpaulins.

An excellent programme had been arranged, the best and most popular turn certainly being Lance-Corporal C. Watson's original song "The Tochi O" (corrected up to date), keeping all amused for a good two hours, and concluding with a most heartily sung "Queen" about 10-30 P. M.

A programme will be found in another column.

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Sergeant Charles Duncan of ours, employed on the M. W. D. at Quetta, has passed the Lower Standard examination in Pushtu.

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On Saturday, 27th, there was another concert, this time in honour of our Brigadier, who was to leave on the following Monday for Datta Khel. There was again an excellent programme, Lance-Corporal Guy Watson being encored several times and forced to give "The Tochi O." Private Short's song "A Tale of Maizar," for the words of which Lance-Corporal Watson was responsible, went down capitally, and the words of both songs are published with this number.

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On the same evening a telegram was received from Datta Khel ordering the despatch of three companies under the command of Major Campbell to that place, to join a column proceeding to Maizar and Sheranni for six or seven days. Details were published the following day and "A," "B" and "F" Companies, numbering 225 rifles, left for Datta Khel on the morning of Monday, 29th, parading at 8 A.M., General Egerton and his staff also proceeding at a later hour.

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With the departure of these three companies the dispositions of the camp at Boya were somewhat altered, the battalion moving up nearer the post and forming a more compact camp which was surrounded by a brushwood zereba, two small sangars for sentries, at the east and west corners, being previously the only defences, as it was not expected that the battalion would remain any time at this post. The despatch of a column to Sheranni and Maizar seems to suggest, however, that our stay at Boya may be more lengthy than at first supposed, and at present

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there seems very little likelihood of the battalion being out of the Tochi by Christmas, or even perhaps the New Year.

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Owing to the large number of troops brought up to the frontier to quell the present disturbances, there has been a general shuffle up of the "shifts," and we have been lucky enough to draw Shahjehanpur and Chaubatia in the Rohilkhand District of the Bengal Command, instead of remaining at Nowshera, as previously intended. The former, we believe, is a large railway centre and sugar-refining town, whilst Chaubatia is a Himalayan hill station near the Nepal border. According to the new changes, too, the Forty-second go to Sitapur and the King's Own Scottish Borderers to Cawnpore, and will consequently be quite near us from an Indian standard of distance. The Cameronians are already in the same district, so there will be a strong Scottish Brigade round the historic mutiny country. Some good football matches may be expected with so many Scots corps together, and the trophy presented by Messrs. Murray and Co. should produce some good games at Lucknow next football season.

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Amongst the deaths this month will be noticed with regret the name of Mr. Alexander Rule, who most will remember as having visited Nowshera last year for the "Balaclava Day" celebration, when he met with a most enthusiastic reception from all ranks of the regiment. At the time of his visit few thought that it would be the last time the gallant old veteran would see his dearly loved old corps, and it is a satisfaction to think that he was made so much of during his short stay with us last year. His few stirring words at the Sergeants' annual Balaclava Dinner, when he spoke of the "long thin wavering line of steel in which there were no wavering hearts," will be thought of by many who were there on that occasion, and his farewell on the following day, when the regiment dragged his carriage to the railway station with band in front playing "Jessie's Dream of Lucknow," was a scene of enthusiasm that will not be forgotten in a hurry by those who were there to witness it.

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Before saying farewell to us at Luzarkach, General Corrie Bird presented the Colonel with a very fine specimen of black mountain goat, which will be trained to march in front of the regiment. General Bird had the goat given him by Sadda Khan when that celebrity surrendered himself, and it has been named after its original donor, and placed in the charge of the Drum Major. At the present time Drummer Smeaton is acting as its instructor, and it already knows the sound of drum and bagpipe, and will offer you its paw if stroked the right way.

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We take the following from a Scottish paper:—

ABERFELDY.—DEATH OF A CRIMEAN VETERAN.—Donald Cameron, of Tighnalechan, one of the few surviving heroes of Balaclava, died after about two hours' illness on Sunday night at his residence, Red Line House, Croftcat, Grandtully, aged 72. Deceased served in the 93rd Highlanders throughout the Crimean campaign, and received the medals and clasps, but no pension. He, recently attended the 93rd annual reunion at Glasgow.

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And this from the *Civil and Military Gazette* is, we think, worthy of reproduction:—

As the Tochi Field Force is shortly to break up, may I be permitted to write (however unworthily) its epitaph? It is not for us who have faced the heat and the flies and the bad water of the Derajat and the Tochi in summer to complain in any way of the Government which we serve which sent us here. We have no means of gauging the imminence of the danger of the hour when so many regiments were ordered post-haste to the dread valley. It is for us to obey. I would only like to let your readers know the extent of the obedience. All the regiments, both European and Native, arrived in the Tochi with little loss, some of course marching better than others, but the best spirit prevailed. It was at Datta Khel that I first noticed the signs of impending disease. We were cooped up in posts rather too small for us, a fact no doubt chiefly owing to the rapidity of the advance. There was a slight lull in the excitement, though sniping at night had begun. The great strain of the march began to tell upon the European troops, and the water was bad. I believe that the water always was bad. The move to Sheranni was at first beneficial—then, I know not exactly what happened. But the most awful and virulent dysentry broke out, in some cases even developing to enteritis. The Rifle Brigade began to suffer most, and at last practically the whole regiment became infected with the deadly power of air or water—perhaps both. Those of us who had to do with the sick were getting more and more hopeless in the search for a remedy. The camp was moved, but still the line of graves lengthened, and the order was given for the Rifle Brigade to return to Datta Khel. There was still no change, and the few graves of the Maizar heroes had an addition of thirty before the regiment was ordered back

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to Miran Shah. There again the little cemetery became one of 40 graves, and there was nothing for it but to send the regiment to the Base, and so back to India. In the midst of all this terrible mortality, the men of the 93rd and the Rifle Brigade showed a quiet heroism that reflects lasting credit on them. No man went into hospital unless he actually could not stand, and the soldiers died quietly and nobly on their beds of *bhoosa* without complaint. We have lost 120 Europeans, officers and men, and the hospitals in India will probably tell a more awful tale in the winter. The Invaliding Boards have their work cut out for them. The men's rest was, naturally, continually disturbed by sniping and by the necessity for manning many outside picquet *sangars*. The native troops suffered very severely from sickness, and sustained the best traditions of these splendid regiments by their uncomplaining fortitude and bravery. The Force was sent up to fight, and found that it had to face the far harder task of endurance in a valley which its own inhabitants shun in the summer. The policy has been successful. The patience of the General Commanding has outworn that of the enemy, and the work has been done. It has been the first hot weather campaign (I believe) since the Mutiny. The British and Native armies have shown that they can face disease undaunted at their posts, and are content for England's sake to leave their bones in graves which may not be forgotten, but which will probably be dishonoured.

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A musical Jock while at Boya,
Invented a new sort of toy-a—
On a small tooth-comb,
He'd play "Home, sweet Home,"
To his comrades' unspeakable joy-a.

The Shawal Column.

On the 4th of October the Shawal Column, under General Egerton, left Sheranni. comprised 200 men of the regiment, Major Napier in Command and Major Campbell; Captains Aitken, Wolrige Gordon and Lieutenants Tweedie, Newall and Harvey; 4 Companies 1st Sikhs, 4 Companies 1st Punjab Infantry, 4 guns Mountain Battery, one Company Sappers and Miners and half squadron Native Cavalry. Our first day's march was to Datoi, a distance of ten miles or so. Most of us know that tiresome march which involves much wading of the rivers. We occupied a pleasant enough camping ground, and immediately set to work building protecting walls. Our regiment furnished nightly an officer's picket of 25 men on some high crags overlooking the camp. There was only a single deep nullah between this picket and the Afghan boundary, and many of the officers were sufficiently energetic or curious to climb the hills to the boundary pillar. We remained at Datoi till the 7th, the only amusement being fishing, and enormous baskets of hill trout were made. Let me state I merely use the term "enormous" as regards numbers. From Datoi Lieutenant Newall was sent back to Sheranni suffering from dysentry. He has had this sickness off and on for more than two months, and a change of air and climate seemed imperative.

On the morning of the 7th we left Datoi on our march to the Zowe Valley. The distance was ten miles. Our transport consisted of mules and plains camels. Our men formed the rear guard. For the first two miles our way was up the bed of the river, then branching off to the left we commenced our climb up. In some places the road over the passes seemed absolutely impossible for loaded camels. However, very slowly and gradually the passes were surmounted and we reached the top of the last "kotal" overlooking the Zowe Valley. We did not arrive in camp till 6-15 P.M.—a very long trying day, interesting only in that it proved what even plains *oonts* can be made to do in the hills when the necessity arises.

We had a charming camp on a little plateau all to ourselves, and soon started making temporary arrangements for the night defence. Next day we strengthened the defences and had a day off. Here we heard that the column was to remain out for five days longer than originally intended.

On the 10th we moved camp six miles further on to Gurbaz, a pleasant march to a pleasant camp. The scenery now began to change from the barren rocks of Datoi and Sheranni; pine-fir and deodar trees everywhere, and grass-covered hill sides. During this march the baggage guard was fired on and three camels wounded, but not seriously. It takes a lot to hurt a camel.

The camping ground at Gurbaz is capable of being made into one of the most charming places imaginable, fine undulating downs, excellent water, pine woods, and level places which, with a little labour, could be converted into football or polo grounds. Even at this time of the year the nights were desperately cold, thick ice in all the leather washing buckets

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and even in one's bath inside the tent. On the 11th Captain Aitken took a party of our men back a bit to see if they could get a shot at the *badmashes* who had fired on the baggage guard the previous day, but no trace of them could be found. On the 12th we were all up at 5-30 A.M.—bitterly cold. Tying transport loop-knots and loading fractious *oonts* was no joke, but as usual everything was ready in good time, and soon we had huge bonfires blazing to thaw ourselves a bit. The 93rd were on advance guard duty, and at 7 A.M. we set off on our 12 miles march to the Khina Valley. The first six miles were good going, and were covered at a slashing pace, then began our climb over a pass 8,300 feet high. This was surmounted in good style, and on the top we halted for a while to let the baggage catch us up. The scenery was lovely, the hills being thickly wooded and mountain streams rushing down the nullahs. Everywhere there were tracks of bears, which had evidently been grubbing about at the foot of the trees in search of pine-nuts. After a halt we began to descend into the Khina Valley, and about three miles further on arrived at our camp. The camp was a very cramped one surrounded by high hills, but it was necessary to camp here, there being no water anywhere else. We were all comfortably, or at any rate fairly comfortably, settled in our tents by 3 P.M.

At 6 P.M., while the peaceful necessary operation of issuing rations was being performed, suddenly half a dozen shots were heard in rapid succession, and a minute or two later we saw a party of the native cavalry galloping down the nullah into camp.

They had been escorting two of the Sapper officers who were inspecting our road for the next march, and had been suddenly fired on by a party of the enemy from a ridge. The first volley killed Lieutenant Hingson's horse under him, also wounding a sowar and his horse. Another bullet cut through Lieutenant Hingson's breeks, grazing the thigh; half an inch lower would have meant speedy death, as the large artery would have been severed. As soon as the enemy perceived this little party had got back safely, they turned their fire on the camp, and for half an hour or so bullets were whistling about in all directions. In less time than it takes to write this, the two native regiments who were nearest the scene of action, each sent forward a company to a ridge 200 yards in front of the camp and opened fire on the enemy at 800 yards range. General Egerton now gave orders for the guns to open fire, and very shortly the first shell was spinning on its way to the ridge where the Waziris were posted. This first shot was a bit high, so the range was reduced to 1,000 yards, and the next shell burst exactly where it was wanted. Immediately the enemy could be seen making record time over the ridge to a safer place, and by way of hurrying them up another shell was dropped among them. Except for an occasional shot, the enemy's fire had now ceased, and after a couple of more shells it was evident that the hillmen had had enough. The troops were recalled to camp, and the afternoon's skirmish was at an end. Our casualties in camp were singularly few considering the nearness of the range and the crowded state of the camp. They consisted of two native followers wounded and a mule shot in our lines. Extra pickets were at once sent on to the hills, and we fully expected to have a lively night of it. However we were disappointed in this, as not a shot was fired during the night.

Next morning, the 13th, we moved our camp a distance of ten miles or so to Dariawasta. We passed the dead body of Lieutenant Hingson's charger soon after leaving camp, and a party who went up to the ridge which had been held by the enemy reported that from traces they found that it was evident the Waziris had not got off scatheless, which is satisfactory.

The march to Dariawasta was over a very bad pass, and it was 5 P.M. before the rear guard got into camp. A very heavy hour's hail and rain did not add to our comfort, and the camp was crowded and cramped. On the 14th under the impression that we were going over

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a very high pass, we sent a party of "sick" men back to Datta Khel. I hope I may never be "sicker" than that party of mounted infantry. As a matter of fact we moved on the 15th to a charming camp about three miles from Dariawasta; we had a little ridge to ourselves and had a day off the next day. From this camp we could see Datta Khel about eight miles distant, and we marched in there, or rather to our old camp near the village, on the 17th. That night our party of sick men rejoined us, also some more men from Miran Shah; and on the 18th we marched into Sheranni. The first news we got on arrival was that all able-bodied men were to leave Sheranni in a few days for the Kazha Valley. Let us hope that we will never see Sheranni again.

W. J.

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The End of the Tochi Valley Expedition.

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(From the *Pioneer*.)

As our readers are aware, the Mada Khels made formal submission to General Corrie Bird some time ago, when the ringleaders, surrounded by an assortment of Mada Khel villagers, among whom some women and children were included, advanced to and baring their heads laid their turbans at the foot of the General, and as the terms on which their submission was accepted were read out, sometimes one of the principal men and sometimes another antiphonally gave the response of "Amin," the response being followed occasionally by a chorus of murmurs of assent from the main body of the suppliants. The tribe were then admitted as a whole to their villages, and were allowed to repair the damage done to their irrigation arrangements, but not to plough or sow up to the 25th of this month, by which date they were to bring in the rifles taken in the attack and other property that fell into their hands, and to pay for anything that was not forthcoming, and also to pay a fine imposed for a murder of a British subject committed within tribal limits last April. Another ten days were allowed in which a fine of Rs. 10,000, imposed for the outbreak itself, is to be paid up, and twenty hostages are in our hands that these terms will be complied with in the stipulated time. There is every reason to suppose that all or nearly all the particular men whose surrender is demanded will give themselves up; if they do not, they will remain outlaws. General Bird is to be congratulated on his settlement of this difficult task, and there is no doubt that had he not encountered obstacles in a quarter where he had a right to expect assistance, the settlement would have been arrived at sooner and with greater ease.

Now that the object for which the force was mobilised is approaching a successful completion, it is of interest to review briefly the history of its doings. The march from Khushalgarh to Edwardesabad in the month of June was as great a trial of endurance and stamina as any regiment could well be called on to undergo, especially for British regiments straight from cantonments, and it is a matter for congratulation that all came through the ordeal so well. The constant marching through the night, the fierce heat and consequent want of sleep during the day, and the final tramp of nineteen miles over a sandy road into Edwardesabad, require no great effort of the imagination to grasp how severe the test was. It could not be expected that such a march at such a time of the year would not claim some victims from the effects of the heat, but four deaths from this cause out of the 1,500 men of two British regiments in thirteen marches can hardly be considered extraordinary. The number, indeed, is hardly more than we meet with in the ordinary course of things in cantonments. It has become a custom of late years to keep the British soldier somewhat out of the calculation in our frontier wars and to decry the possibility of the young soldier of the present rivalling the marching achievements of his forefathers of the mutiny days, and it needed an object lesson of this kind to restore him to the niche in the estimation of the public which it is his right to occupy. No troops could have arrived in better spirits and condition at the starting point for a dash at the enemy than the Tochi field force showed: the British troops eager to experience the delights of fighting, and the native battalions equally eager to avenge the death of their comrades who had fallen so short a time before. Man proposed and in this case the enemy disposed—of themselves by vanishing over the invisible but impenetrable screen afforded them by the boundary line between us and Afghanistan, and nothing was left but their villages and crops. It has been a stumbling block and rock of offence to many an arm-chair critic that the Mada Khel were not hunted out and slaughtered, at least that is what is generally taken to mean the want of the adoption of a "vigorous policy." The querrulous and inconsequent comments made in some quarters were amusing at first, but constant reiteration and nagging on the same subject soon became nauseating. The demand for the force to roam about like a mad dog and bite everybody within reach was hardly reasonable, and was due either to wilful blindness or to inexcusable ignorance of the reason for which the force was formed. Justice in our dealings with frontier tribes is held to be a mistake; fire and sword must be carried into someone's country, and it does not make much odds whether it is theirs with whom we have a quarrel or that of a neutral; this is the standard set up by one critic, who would have had General Corrie Bird burn a village of our own in the Tochi Valley because a murderer lived there. One can hardly help asking if such a critic would advocate a like policy with a village adjoining Peshawar for a similar reason, and it cannot be doubted that if he is sane he would reply in the negative. It is open to question whether fire and sword ruthlessly applied advance our future interests in any policy, whether it be forward or backward, or fore and after, as a correspondent in these columns has called the policy pursued in recent years. In the present case fire might have been indiscriminately used as a weapon of coercion, but the sword was certainly powerless, as there was no enemy to whom it could be applied. The individuals and small parties of three and four who occasionally visited the scenes where they had formerly dwelt were hunted out, in several cases paying the extreme penalty for their temerity, and when it became apparent that the tribesmen were still recalcitrant columns quartered the country to ensure that their sympathisers and friends did not harbour and allow them to share the comfort of a house and home, and that the Mada Khels were as a body kept beyond the border, and the only means of coercion available was the

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threat of the presence of troops remaining through the season, when, if the spring crops were to come to fruition and not be lost altogether, the ground must be ploughed and the seed sown, and this was to a large extent the lever used to bring a settlement within the bounds of possibility.

Political matters are the burden of the complaint regarding every frontier expedition, and the solution is extremely favourable which meets with general approval. Diplomacy, like a quarrel, requires at least two parties to undertake it, and here, probably the only instance of such a difficulty in the history of frontier campaigns, there was no one to deal with, or to open negotiations with, until the other side chose, as there was not a soul in the country, and the Mada Khels were not at all forward in attempting to negotiate, as they were safe, fairly comfortable in a good climate and had suffered as much damage as it was in our power and policy to inflict. The situation was difficult, and the key to their problem of hanging back was discovered only about a month ago. Once the clue was found, the chance of a settlement improved day by day, and the advent of Sadda Khan in General Bird's camp was a sign for a general submission. The difficulty generally encountered in frontier expeditions of obtaining the surrender of the ringleaders in outrages committed against us and of rifles taken from us is in course of being successfully encountered. Government so far relaxed its terms as to promise Sadda Khan that if he surrendered his life would be spared, and he would not be transported, but short of that it is open to Government to punish him as it is thought proper, if after trial he is found guilty of having acted inimically to Government and encouraged the tribe to commit the outrage of which it was guilty on the 10th June last. Besides Sadda Khan, four others have unconditionally surrendered themselves, and in their case no sort of promise has been made, either that their lives would be spared, or that they would not be transported.

The force has been unfortunate in having hit off for a summer campaign one of the most unhealthy years known on the Derajat frontier for a very long time. The heat was great, and the only water available was at most parts indifferent, and as a result climatic diseases showed themselves, and dysentry and typhoid were prevalent. Every one admired the good spirit and fortitude displayed by the Rifle Brigade in fighting against sickness and losses by disease, and as all hope of fighting any one in this part of the world had passed away, every reason suggested that they should return to India. The corps who have withstood the climate best are the 93rd Highlanders and the 14th Sikhs, who are fit to go anywhere and do anything. That the force has had no fighting is not their fault, but it has had to contend against infinitely more trying conditions in doing its duty without any excitement to cheer it and in bearing up against the ravages of a very unhealthy climate.

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A Veteran of the 93rd.

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(From the *Pioneer*.)

BY the death on Monday evening, 25th September, at Lanauli, where he had gone to recruit his health, of Alexander Rule, another of the Crimean, Indian Mutiny, Relief of Lucknow and Umbeyla Campaign heroes has joined the army of his comrades in arms who have gone before. Enlisting when seventeen years old, Rule was sent out to the Crimea, where he joined his regiment, the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, which had already—when part of Colin Campbell's beloved Highland Brigade—earned for itself the unique title of "the thin red line" for the gallant stand it made against the Russian Cavalry at Balaclava. Rule did not participate in the glories of Alma, Inkerman and Balaclava, but was present at the siege and capture of Sebastopol, for which he was granted a medal and clasp.

The 93rd Highlanders played a very prominent part in the suppression of the Mutiny. Landing at Calcutta in time to form part of the brigade being formed under Sir Colin Campbell, then a Major-General, for the second relief of Lucknow, the regiment accompanied its old Chief to Cawnpore, fighting from thence its way to Lucknow, relieving the Residency and withdrawing the women and children of the garrison to Cawnpore.

During all this time Rule played a prominent part in the desperate fighting at the Secunderabagh, the Shah Najeef, up through the intervening streets to the extended Residency position; subsequently at the second battle of Cawnpore, where Sir Colin defeated the Gwalior Contingent, and finally at the final capture of Lucknow.

At the assault on the "Begum's Kothi" (now the Lucknow General Post Office) on the 11th March 1858, and after that strongly entrenched position had been taken, great numbers of the enemy were found lurking among the out-houses and court-yards of the palace. The Highlanders were sent after them: one party of the 93rd surrounded a large dimly-lighted building containing a great number of them, and while discussing the best means of carrying the place, Major Hodson rushed up sword in hand, dashing into the narrow doorway, and calling upon the Highlanders to follow him.

A volley from the inside of the building laid Hodson low, but the Highlanders dashed in and bayonetted every rebel. Rule was one of the party, and it is said that he killed half of the enemy single-handed, shouting out all the while, "Revenge for the death of Hodson!"

When Rule left the army he joined the Bombay Police, but breaking a leg while in the discharge of his duty, he resigned on a small gratuity, and entered the service of the B. B. and C. I. Railway as a Time-keeper in their Parel Workshops, where he has served for the last thirty years. He was an officer in the Railway Volunteer Corps. A staunch total abstainer for many years he was prominent in temperance

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work, and mainly instrumental in founding the first Good Templars' Lodge in Bombay, about thirty years ago; he was at the time of his death chief Templar of Lodge Edna at Parel. One of the many old soldiers who have helped to build up the good working and to develop our Indian Railway system, the memory of Alexander Rule the old Sutherlandshire Highlander, will be long remembered by many of his fellow-workers, with whom he was a great favourite, as well as by many of the Railway officers, whose right hand man he ever was in much more than the mere routine work of their every-day official duty.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it]

THAT it wis glad tae say guid bye tae Sheranni.

That it hapes it'll niver see it again.

That the mony rumours wis only pairtly true.

That it did gae back, but only a vera short way.

That they Afghan folk caused an awful bother.

That the Shawal column had a gran' time amang the snaw an' ice.

That they thoucht it wis at hame agin amang the glens an' hills.

That it wisna on the fichtin column itsel.

That bullets camin intae camp didna spoil the appetite for dinner.

That there wis only a few cases of bobbin'.

That a Color Sergeant took a' the names.

That in the Treacle City the pen is truly mightier than the sword.

That the pioneers are guid judges o' distance.

That the "war" is over.

That a gey few wis ower anxious tae git their beards off.

That they are no sae anxious noo.

That its a bonny beast the General ga'ed them.

That it has been christened "Sadda Khan."

That it came off the fourth column wi' a licht hairt.

That it's no so licht-hairted the noo.

That it'll no believe in ony mair rumours.

That the twa "gaffs" wis gey guid.

That the last ane wis almaist spoiled by that telegram.

That it's been back round about Maizar and Sheranni agin.

That it's gettin' a gran' sportin' regiment.

That fitba, shinty and roonders is all the go.

That it's afraid the "gong snatchers" are a wee bit tae late.

That the death roll is gettin' awfu' heavy.

That its no helf sae bad as the puir Rifle bodies, thank guidness.

That had there been bags o' fichtin' it cud na hae been muckle waur.

That it has almaist given up all hope of leavin' the Tochi yet.

"Jock Mackinnon."

INTERESTING LETTER FROM SIR W. H. RUSSELL.

IN a letter to the *Times* Sir W. H. Russell, the veteran war correspondent, writes:—

The obituary notice of Sir W. A. Mackinnon in the *Times* of last Saturday was a succinct record of the services of one of the best and bravest soldiers that ever wore the uniform of the Queen, but it conveyed no idea of the man himself, who was an embodiment of some of the finest traits of the Celtic Highlander—a dour, tender-hearted man, stern and kind, imaginative in all that related to clan and country, loyal to his Sovereign, but full of sentimental affection for "the lost cause" of the Stuarts, which still lives in poetry and song north of Perth, and is not altogether ignored in high places along the valley of the Dee; keen in maintenance of the rights of the profession to which he belonged, and highly sensitive on the point of honour, but practical enough to recognise that there were broad lines of demarcation between the combatant and the medical officer in relation to military duties, and it must be confessed promptly pugnacious in vindication of his views against all comers. And so it was that, not being all things to all men, "Jock Mackinnon," as he was known to friends and enemies, had to fight his way like a Gordon Highlander at Dargai, and rather enjoyed what Kinglake calls "the rapture" of the combat. After the repulse of the Russian detachment by the 93rd, his own loved regiment, on October 25, "Jock" became so full of warlike ardour that he resigned his appointment as assistant surgeon and applied to Sir Colin Campbell to obtain him a commission as ensign, which, I believe, he actually received, although his "chief," as he called the General, endeavoured to divert him from his purpose by the remark, "My good man, why, if you want to kill people, depend upon it you'll be more deadly with the lancet than you'll be with your sword." The link that was forged between him and Sir Colin in the fire of battle was never broken, and Mackinnon was wont to rage at large when he spoke of the repulse at the Redan. "We" (meaning the Highland Brigade) "would have just driven them like chaff before the wind if Sir Colin had had the word." When Campbell took the command of the army in India, he selected Mackinnon as his personal staff surgeon. "And an awful time I have of it," said Jock. "He is not amenable to advice, and it's responsibility for a whole hospital to look after him." When Sir Colin, riding furiously to check a troop R. H. A. that were galloping after some flying sepoys, was thrown from his horse and broke his collar-bone, Mackinnon exclaimed "Well! he will have to be quiet for a time now at all events." It was a short while before this that there was a temporary coolness between the chief and his body surgeon. Mackinnon rushed into the tent of a friend one morning with staring eyes and every symptom of bodily suffering, exclaiming, "I am poisoned, I am dying! The apothecary gave me a deadly dose of belladonna in mistake. Heaven have mercy on me!" His friend rushed off to the tent of Dr. Tice, the P. M. O., who hastily caught up some specifics, and both made for the tent where Mackinnon lay in agony on a *charpoy*, which they reached just as Lord Clyde was entering it with the brusque demand, "What's all this noise about?" "I am dying! Sir, I am dying! That's all," exclaimed Mackinnon in great agony. "Dying! Then why can't you die quietly like a gentleman, sir, and not make such a row?" And so retired. "And to think I have saved his life half a dozen times," said Jock, when he recovered, which he soon did, "Let him mind next time." We laughed, but Jock was very angry. But

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peace was soon restored, and when Mackinnon set the mess tent on fire in the course of his execution of a strathspey on the table to enliven our Christmas dinner on the borders of the Raptee (1859), Sir Colin merely observed that "he must not do it again." When he was speaking of a medical officer with whom he had quarrelled in rather severe terms, he was reminded by a friend that the other was his countryman, and that Scotchmen should hang together. "Scotchmen!" exclaimed Mackinnon. "Don't you understand the difference between a Glasgow body like that and a Highland gentleman? God forbid we should be considered the same!" By all the officers he served under he was held in friendly esteem and regard, by Lord Clyde, by Cameron, and by Lord Wolseley, and it is not to the credit of some of his own particular department of the army that Mackinnon was subjected to bitter attacks in the press when he was Director-General, for his assailants knew well that he could not reply to them; but he was sustained by his sense of duty and by the consciousness that he was actuated by devotion to the public service—"Tam Martequam Mercurio"—he was a soldier surgeon indeed, and he set a bright example, which perhaps will be followed when the medical officers of the army are content to be so.

——:o:——

Tae the Auld Wife.

—o—

MA DEAR MITHER,

NAE doot ye hae been lookin' anxiously at the list o' killed, wounded, and missin' for ma name seein' that I missed writin' ye laist mail, but like the auld bawbee I'm aye buzzin aboot.

Sin ye laist heard frae me we hae been awfu busy knockin' doun mud shanties and blowin' up villages, and that place, ye min I wrote ye aboot afore ca'ed Maizar, is levelled tae the groun and Sheranni is the same.

At the knockin' doun of the first-named place we hed yin o' oor sairgints badly hurtit, tho I'm gled tae say he's a' richt noo, still he hed a gey narrow escape.

Dae ye ken, mither, at a' the villages roun aboot there's scarce a sowl tae be seen, and it fair puzzles me whaur a' the men gae till, while as for women bodies, I haena seen a lassie for sax months; I'm thinkin' they'll be haein' some graun carryins on, jist across the Afghan border.

We hed some sports the ither month at Sheranni atween us and the Rifles (puir bodies they hae hed sair trouble up here wi fever and dysentry) and we carried aff the tug o' war, Lloyd-Lindsay, and khud races.

It's simply wonnerfu how smokin' taks on a man; dae ye ken I hae seen, on yin o' oor columns, men followin' an officer for twa three miles simply for the doup o' his cigar; ye cudna get baccy for love or money and tea or waur still native baccy wis clutched at like a droon in man clutches at a strae.

I hed a line frae Jock McBouncer o' the H. L. I. the ither day and he wis tellin' me that his regiment wis the best mairchin regiment in India, and that they hed dune aicht miles in yin day. I jist mentioned tae him that on September the 13th we did aicht and twenty miles and were jist gettin' oor second wun whan we reached camp.

The maist excitin' job we hae been on as yet was road-making, and, mither, dinna fash yer heid aboot repairing the path tae the lyre for I'll be able tae dae that masell whan I cam hame; next tae road-makin' cams wa'-biggin, whilk tho' no sae excitin' is still a verra diffeecult and ticklish job, and afore a sairgint gets chairge o' a' fatigue at wa'-biggin he needs tae hae an awfu straicht e'e. Noo aboot masell, mither deed an ye wud hardly ken me, while oot on columns, hoo mony I cudna say, ilka ither day we were haein' biscuits or bully beef, and whan a man's hungersome it taks an awfu lot o' either tae satisfy him, and at nicht time the wun's that cauld that—weel aifter twa 'our's sentry-go it's naethin ava ta see a mon shiftin his pun and lookin' aboot for anither dodger.

Whiles we hae a nip o' rum sairved oot till us, bit gin ye werena on guid terms wi the orderly corporal--a' weel it's nae use grousin.'

Guid sakes, mither, I hed nearly forgotten a graun bit news for ye, and its yersel' 'ill be a prood woman whan ye hear it, bit here it is and in poetry, too, for sin Guy Watson—ye min ma tellin ye aboot him afore—sang it at a concert, I canna get the tune oot o' ma heid; ye ken the tune fine.—"The Day we gaed tae Rothesay O!"—

"Oh! mither, noo an hae ye heard
A gran bit news thet hes occurred,
Hoo I jined the staff o' Gen'ral Bird
Whilst m airchin thro' the Tochi O?

Bit at Miranshah a sairgint came,
An I wis packit aff alane,
An noo I'm biggin wa's o' stane
Its a' we dae in Tochi O"!

Ye mun forgie me, mither, bit ye ken ma heid's been aye a wee bit saft sin I hed a touch o' the sun in Nowshera.

It's a rum thing, mither, hoo things happen and the ither nicht a barrel of rum disappeared and whan a man wis foun' sleepin' agin it, he jist murmured "ony port in a storm"; deed and

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a few nichts efter, it wis ony port, for sax o' the best hed vanished.

Efter rejoinin' the regiment, which I did under unforeseen circumstances, tho', min ye, mither, no in ony wey unbecomin tae the clan, we were sent on anither column roun Maizar and some vilages lnorth o' the Tochi, and I can till ye it wis cauld wark; river water's no sae warm in December.

Of coorse ye ken Sadda Khan has surrendered and a' the ither big pots aboot here and a thing's quiet.

Tho' this ull no reach you till efter Ne'erday, I'll send ye ma best wishes for the New Year and on Hogmanay ye mun treat yersel tae a bottle o' the best and I'll sen ye the money agin.

Noo, mither, I'll hae tae stop as its jist on "lichts oot," so wi best love tae Rab, Tibbie and the bairns.

Believe me,
Yer ever lovin' son,
JOCK.

P.S.—I'll no hae a sock tae ma fit whan I get back tae India.

Concerts at Hoya.

—o—

Programme of 20th November.

PART I.

Song ... ... "The Star o' Rabbie Burns."
PRIVATE WALLACE.

Comic Song ... ... "A Sad Catastrophe."
PRIVATE McLEAN.

Comic Song ... "I didn't get a look at them at all."
LANCE-CORPORAL LYONS.

Song ... ... "The Fireman's Dream."
PRIVATE SHORT.

Comic Song ... ..."The Tochi O!"
LANCE-CORPORAL GUY WATSON.

Encore.
Song... ... ... "As the Church Bells Chime."
PRIVATE CAIRNS.

Encore.
Song... ... ... "The Song that shall live for ever."
BANDSMAN BENSON.

Song ... ... "The Middy's Last Farewell."
LANCE-CORPORAL J. WATSON.

Reel by PIPERS McLEAN and LYNCH and Privates McGILVRAY and McDONALD.

PART II.

Comic Song ... ... "Recruiting."
LANCE-CORPORAL LYONS.

Song ... ... "Sunshine Above."
BANDSMAN BENSON.

Song ... ... "Forgive and Forget."
PRIVATE SHORT.

Highland Fling.
PIPER McLEAN.

Song ... ... "Norah Machree."
PRIVATE CAIRNS.

Comic Song ... ... "When they go to Bye Bye."
BANDSMAN HICKMAN.

Song ... ... "Kathleen."
CORPORAL MATHEW.

Closing Song ... ... "Good Night."
CORPORAL WALSH.

"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

Programme of 27th November.

PART I.

Song ... ... "The Gallant 9 and 3."
LANCE-CORPORAL G. WATSON.

Comic Song ... ... "Glorious Beer."
PRIVATE ELLIOTT.

Song ... ... "As the Church Bells Chime."
PRIVATE CAIRNS.

Song ... ..."Afton Water."
CORPORAL RICHMOND.

Comic Song ... ..."The Scientific Man."
PRIVATE BURGESS.

Song ... ... "Eileen Alanah."
LANCE-CORPORAL SHORT.

Song ... ... "The Lass o' Ballochmyle."
LANCE-CORPORAL J. WATSON.

PART II.

Comic Song ... ... "I Forget."
PRIVATE BAXTER.

Song ... ... "A Tale of Maizar."
PRIVATE SHORT.

Comic Song ... ... "Out."
PRIVATE BURGESS.

Song ... ... "The Laird o' Cockpen."
LIEUTENANT TWEEDIE.

Encore.
Song ... ... "My Heather Hills."
SERGEANT PEGGIE.

Sword Dance.
PIPER McLEAN.

Song ... ... "The Monarch of the Woods."
PRIVATE CAIRNS.

Comic Song ... ... "The Poetical Fellow."
PRIVATE ELLIOTT.

Comic Song ... ... "I could not get in."
BANDSMAN HICKMAN.

Song... ... ... "Au Revoir."
LANCE-CORPORAL SHORT.

"GOD SAVE THE QUEEN."

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HUNTER.—At Miran Shah on the 4th October, No. 5646, Private Hunter, "A" Company, of dysentry.

MCKENZIE.—At Miran Shah on the 8th October, No. 4340, Private McKenzie, "C" Company, of dysentry.

SINCLAIR.—At Bannu on the 15th October, No. 4866, Private Sinclair, "F" Company, of ague.

SHAW.—At Miran Shah on the 20th October, No. 2974, Corporal Shaw, "E" Company, of dysentry.

BEASLEY.—At Miran Shah on the 22nd October, No. 5295, Lance-Corporal Beasley, "G" Company, of dysentry.

REGAN.—At Bannu on the 25th October, No. 3891 Private Regan, "G" Company, of ague.

YOUNG.—At Datta Khel on the 26th October, No. 5655, Private Young, "A" Company, of enteric fever.

FITCHETT.—At Inzarkach on the 29th October, No. 4632, Lance-Corporal Fitchett, "E" Company.

CLARE.—At Nowshera on the 30th October, Sergeant H. Clare, "D" Company.

RUSSEL.—At Miran Shah on the 31st October, No. 4661, Private G. Russell, "C" Company, of enteric fever.

HAMILTON.—At Rawalpindi on the 13th November, No. 4243, Private Hamilton, "D" Company, of dysentry.

PATTERSON.—At Bannu on the 17th November, No. 3937, Private Patterson, "G" Company, of dysentry.

SMITH—At Rawalpindi on the 18th November, No. 5260, Private P. Smith, "D" Company, of dysentry.

Non-Commissioned Officer (to squad).—"Stand at—Aise." (Wishes to appear important as Company Officer is near): "Now then when you get 'Stand at ease' some of you men draw back both your feet at once."

—— : o : ——

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'TWAS NOT UPON THE BATTLE FIELD.

(PARODY.)

'Twas not upon the battle field
The soldier was to die;
To the wet canteen he went one night,
For he felt rather dry;
But there was water in the beer,
And very strange to say
To water he had not been used,
So we buried him next day.

Chorus—

In silent grief we stood around
Till 'twas whispered in our ear,
And we learned how the soldier died
Thro' the water in the beer.
As we rested on our arms reversed.
'Twas not upon the battle field
The soldier was to die;
He bought a pound of canteen cheese
Which smell'd a trifle high;
He took one sniff—'twas quite enough,
His life we could not save,
So for picks and shovels we all went
And dug a soldier's grave

Chorus—

In silent grief we stood around
And then we stood at ease,
And we took an oath we'd take a pledge
Against eating canteen cheese:
As we rested on our arms reversed.

'Twas not upon the battle field
Our police were doomed to die,
For they had other work to do
When a stray dog caught their eye;
Round barracks they would take a walk
And when a *kutta* they would see
They'd catch it and they'd "cart" it off,
And hang it to a tree.

Chorus—

In silent grief they stand around
They cannot hang dogs now;
So if they'd go and hang themselves
The dogs would all bow-bow:
And we'd rest upon our arms reversed.

FOR ME.

(PARODY.)

On the plains I was doing drills,
And I found that they were very hard,
So I squared the doctor, and I quiffed the hills,
I was sent,
So off I went
While my pals were all on guard.

Chorus—

For me, for me,
They were doing guards for me;
'Twas getting hot, so I thought
Off to the hills I'd do a trot,
Ha, ha! He he!
I'm going back you see,
For if any one knows a thing or two,
It's me, me, me, me, me.

I met a man just the other day,
In this you'll perhaps see nothing very queer,
But then he went and drew his weekly pay,
And in a trice
Every pice
Was handed over here.

Chorus—

For me, for me,
To square the "flag," you see,
Ten rupees, or more if you please,
Will get a good staff job with ease,
Ha, ha! He, he!
I know how it's done you see,
For any one knows a thing or two,
It's me, me, me, me, me.

Through a course of musketry I was going,
And to gain the "guns" I'd said I'd try,
But each morning the wind it was a-blowing,
And for each shot
A miss I got,
The flag was flying high.

Chorus—

For me, for me,
It was flying high for me,
For being slack, they got on my track,
I got third class drill when I came back,
Ha, ha! He, he!
I've had enough you see,
For if anyone knows a thing or two,
Its me, me, me, me, me.

A month ago with drink I was demented,
Last night I went to the A. T. A.
To see the medals to the men presented,
When, on looking round,
I quickly found,
There on the table lay

Chorus—

For me, for me,
On the table there for me,
O glorious sight, was a medal bright,
Although I often had been tight,
Ha, ha! He, he!
I'm going back, you see,
For if anyone knows a thing or two,
It's me, me, me, me, me.

At a "gaff" they asked if I would do a turn,
But ere I was fairly on my legs,
From the stage I found that I had to adjourn,
I nearly had a fit,
For in every "mitt,"
Was half-a-dozen eggs.

Chorus—

For me, for me,
They brought those eggs for me,
And I could tell, by the smell,
In the coffee shop they would not sell,
Ha, ha! He! he!
I like eggs fresh, you see,
For if any one knows a thing or two,
It's me, me, me, me, me,

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THE TOCHI, O!

AIR.—"*The Day we went tae Rothesay.*"

In the Tochi for seven months we've been,
Ready to fight for Britain's Queen,
But nothing but "friendlies" have we seen
Since we came to the Tochi, O.
The foe by dozens we meant to kill,
Their blood by gallons we meant to spill,
And we'd have polished the *subchiz* off until
There wasn't one left in Tochi, O.

We've done our 28 miles before,
We can do the same again and more,
Tho' our legs were tired and our feet were sore
As we went through the Tochi, O.
If asked to fight, we'll gladly go,
And let the wild Waziri know
That there's a firm called "John Bull and Co."
Going to trade in Tochi, O.

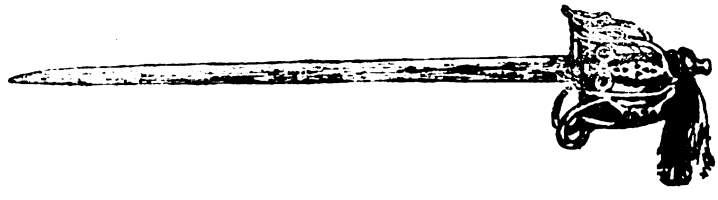
Some hundred odd of the sick, lame and blind,
At Edwardesabad were left behind,
For truth to tell they could not find
Their way up to the Tochi, O.
When they started from Bannu the heat
Affected their sore and blistered feet,
While the staff had blisters on their seat
Thro' riding up to Tochi, O.

During the month or two just past
Our shoes were wearing very fast,
And for a month at most they'd last
Thro' marching in the Tochi, O.
But if my tip you'd go and take
And from our rations cut a steak,
A pair of good soles for your shoes they would make
For marching thro' the Tochi, O.

A very short time ago there came
A certain party in search of fame,
They're called, I believe "gong-snatchers" by name,
Since they went to the Tochi, O.
When they learned there was no fighting to do
They thought they'd march beyond Bunnoo,
But they did their fighting with old Sumdoo
In the coffee shop in Tochi, O.

To celebrate the Jubilee,
(With me you doubtless will agree),
Her Majesty to you and me
Should give a "Star" for Tochi, O.
For during the day the sun was strong,
And then, at night, the march was long,
And a "Star" would look splendid beside a "gong,"
Inscribed with the name of Tochi, O.

To Africa lately some troops were sent,
But they didn't live thirty in a tent,
And it wasn't so hot as when *we* went,
Marching up to Tochi, O.
When they returned, the powers that be
At the War Office, thought fit to see,
To grant a "Star" for Ashantee,
So we should get one for Tochi, O.



MAIZAR.

AIR—"*The Last Bullet.*"

I'll tell a tale of Tochi in far off Waziristan,
Where gallant Colonel Bunny and his band
Upheld the honour of their flag as only Britons can,
And against a thousand foemen made a stand.

While seated 'neath a spreading tree (the sun was scorching hot),
Confiding in a Malik's word, our officers were shot,
Unarmed, defenceless, wounded too, upon the field they lay,
Yet, still, though dying they held command till their spirits fled away.

Chorus—

Here's to the men who fought and fell
On Maizar's field so gory;
To young and old, let the tale be told,
How they died for Britain's glory.

But there were men whose hearts were true, altho' in colour black,
Men who upheld our prestige in the past,
And who, like heroes, nobly fought, and scorned to turn their back,
But, defiant, stood at bay while life did last.

The odds were great—'twas five to one—but little did they care,
Not that for twice or even thrice the number they met there,
To India's Empress o'er the sea they had sworn to be true,
And right manfully they showed to all what loyal hearts could do.

Chorus—

Here's to the men who fought and fell
On Maizar's field so gory
To young and old, let the tale be told,
How they died for Britain's glory.

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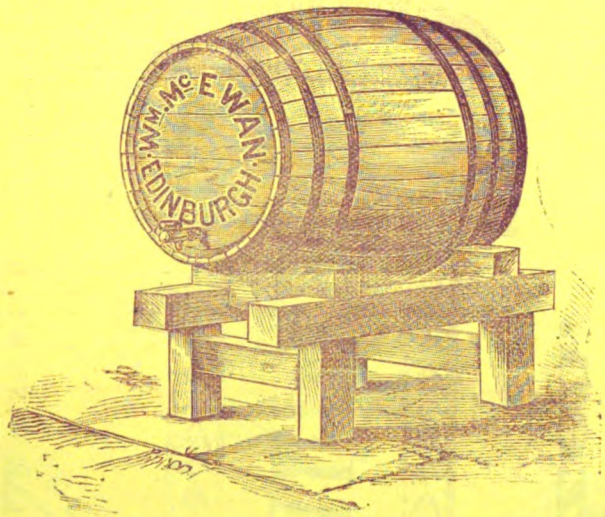

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The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. I—Vol. IV. BAREILLY,—APRIL 1898. Price, 3 Annas.

SKIRLS

DURING the absence of "A," "B" and "F" Companies with the Maizar Column there was little to chronicle at head-quarters at Boya. On one occasion some camels out grazing had been attacked by badmashes and the sarwans cut and otherwise ill-treated, but this was all, and the camel-grazing picquet had not even the chance of firing a shot at the enemy. After this, as long as we remained in Boya, the camel-grazing guard was always accompanied by a signaller to keep up communication with the camp, but no badmashes showed up again.

* * * * * *

The three companies of the Maizar Column returned from their ramble round the hills on the 13th December, having been away fifteen days, although a battalion order had naively notified that the column would be absent "about a week." The men returned very fit and were soon settled down, all hopes of leaving the Tochi before Christmas being banished, as each day passed and still no order to return to India was received. Time passed very wearily except for shinty and rounders, and an occasional football match. Subalterns and non-commissioned officers, too, managed to pass away an hour or so daily "judging distance," whilst there was some fishing, and those who possessed a gun might, accompanied by a small escort, attempt shooting.

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Christmas Day passed very quietly, the day being rather a dull one and rain threatening. At night it rained pretty heavily, and the 26th was a miserable day, only enlivened by the news that we should probably move down to Miran Shah on the 1st January, and then by easy stages back to India. The General Officer Commanding was to have arrived from Datta Khel on this day *en route* for Miran Shah, but did not pass

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through until the following day, owing to the inclemency of the weather. Rain in the valley, of course, meant snow in higher altitudes, and the hills in the direction of Datta Khel and stretching away to Dadam and the Afghan border were thickly covered with this seasonable adjunct of winter. The Spinchilla Kotal too was well covered with its winter coat, snow and slush making the road which leads over it quite impassable for camels, and decidedly unpleasant for marching, as our athletic detachment found when returning from the sports at Datta Khel on the 30th.

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On this day Captain Mackenzie left us, proceeding Home to the Depôt as Adjutant of the 3rd Battalion. Captain Mackenzie left in the morning with the Miran Shah convoy, the pipers playing him a good half mile on the road. He takes with him the good wishes of all ranks of the battalion, and the Depôt for the next few years is to be greatly envied.

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On New Year's morning the following telegram was received :—

" To Boya, From Glasgow.
Sutherland Highlanders.

Happy New Year from Argyll comrades."

And was answered " Happy New Year from Sutherlands."

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On New Year's Day, Brigadier-General Egerton C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., had his farewell inspection, our move to Miran Shah having been postponed until 3rd January. General Egerton arrived, at twelve, noon, the battalion being in column to receive him ; a most minute inspection of each man then followed and the battalion was closed to quarter column, when General Egerton said :—

" Colonel Fetherstonhaugh and 93rd,—I am sorry for having you on parade to-day, but I shall not keep you long. I could not let you leave my brigade without bidding you good-bye and saying how proud I was to have had such a distinguished regiment under my command. Although you have had no fighting to do, you have had hardships that have fallen to the lot of few regiments on the frontier : first the long march from your station during the hot weather, then the heat up here in the Tochi, and the unhealthy climate of the valley. You have done your duty like soldiers and like men, and I have no doubt, had you had the chance which other regiments have had, you would have distinguished yourselves as you have always done in the past. I wish you all a Happy New Year and good luck on your return to India."

On General Egerton leaving for his return journey in the afternoon, the battalion turned out in full strength and lustily cheered him as he made his way down the lines to the main exit of the camp. Here the pipers were assembled, and to the air of " Happy we've been a thegither," and amidst the cheers of the men, our deservedly popular Brigadier left us and followed by his cavalry escort trotted off in the direction of Datta Khel.

The same day the following appeared in battalion orders :—

The Officer Commanding has much pleasure in stating that the General Officer Commanding expressed his entire satisfaction at the turn-out of the battalion to-day. He further stated that he had made most favourable reports to higher authorities on the general conduct of the battalion while under his command.

The inspection was also productive of an extra " tot " in which General Egerton was toasted, and the battalion was in the best of spirits during the evening. New Year's Day in the Tochi will no doubt be long remembered by all who were in camp at Boya on the 1st January 1898.

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In answer to a kind invitation from the General Officer Commanding the 2nd Brigade, a few of our vocalists had proceeded some days previously to Miran Shah to spend their Christmas, and a remarkably merry time they had of it, too, according to all accounts, though it is quite impossible

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to obtain from any of them, tee-totallers too, curiously, a coherent description of their outing. The air of Miran Shah is, we hear, very strong.

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A largish detachment was also away at Datta Khel to take part in some sports which were to have been held on Boxing Day (Monday 27th), but in the higher altitude of Datta Khel there was a fairly heavy fall of snow, and it was the morning of the 30th before some of the events could be decided. The prizes were numerous, a large percentage going to "B" Company, who held first in nearly every event. Who said a barrel of vinegar ?

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The body of Sergeant Inglis was taken to Datta Khel on the 24th for burial in the little cemetery there, a firing party going from the regiment; as many Sergeants as could be spared also went to attend the funeral and pay the last respects to a dead comrade.

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On New Year's Day "G" and half of "A" Company were away half road to Datta Khel to escort in No. 3 Peshawar Mountain Battery, and unfortunately missed the General's inspection and the farewell speech. The next day the battery escorted by "C" and "D" Companies left for Miran Shah in exchange with No. 6 Bombay Mountain Battery, which had been passed through a couple of days previously to the advanced post at Datta Khel. Two companies of the 1st Punjab Infantry were expected in from there the following day to take over Boya, whilst the 1st Sikhs had orders to move back into the 2nd Brigade as soon as relieved by the 33rd Punjab Infantry from Miran Shah and the Lower Tochi posts.

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A bitterly cold wind was blowing Monday January 3rd, when to make the leading move in these shifts, the battalion fell in just after 10 o'clock for the march to Miran Shah. The Tochi water was icy cold, but a little skilful manœuvring, and the assistance of some spare transport got the battalion over dry-shod (a more important item than those who have not forded through a swift running stream in mid-winter would imagine), and Miran Shah was reached just after 2 P.M. "A" and "H" Companies were left behind until relieved by the 1st Punjab Infantry from Datta Khel and did not march until after dinner, but arrived at their destination just before dusk.

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The camp at Miran Shah was a very straggling one and the battalion much broken up during its stay there. Five and a half companies occupied the camp between the Military and Civil posts, known as the "Rifle Brigade enclosure," whilst two companies were encamped alongside the enclosure occupied by the battalion on its march up in July, and a half company moved down alongside the Mountain Battery to protect the guns and line part of the north wall.

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On our arrival six companies of the 14th Sikhs moved out to relieve the 33rd Punjab Infantry at Idak Kajuri and Saidgi, and the latter regiment having called in its detachments marched to Boya, *en route* to Datta Khel, on the 7th. Previously on the 5th, the battalion had paraded for inspection by Brigadier-General Brook, commanding the 2nd brigade, this proving to be really our last inspection in the Tochi.

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On the 10th the 1st Sikhs marched in from Datta Khel presumedly *en route* for Bannu, but they were detained at Miran Shah to await orders, which were published a few days later, when to every one's intense relief we were to march on the 18th *en route* for Khushalgarh, to train from thence to Bareilly, our cold weather station. This left the latest arrivals from Datta Khel (the 1st Sikhs) to do duty until relieved from India by the 20th Madras Native Infantry, who had been ordered up from Meerut. The Mountain Battery was to march with us to Bannu.

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On the whole our short stay at Miran Shah was a pleasant change from the dull monotony of Boya: there was a really capital football ground which was taken full advantage of, whilst shinty and rounders also thrived: also an excellent race-course, and a few days before leaving, a gymkhana was held with some interesting and amusing events.

Whilst at Miran Shah, too, we were well off for music, there being no less than four pipe bands in the garrison, and these massed under our pipe-major played "Retreat" on several occasions, when nearly the whole garrison would be present as admiring spectators, the centre of interest being the premier big-drummer, belonging to the Mountain Battery, who was certainly a marvellous performer, some of his feats verging almost on the acrobatic.

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A couple of days before our departure for India the 2nd Brigade, Tochi Field Force, had ceased to exist, Brigadier-General Brook issuing a most complimentary order on the break-up of his command. The native field hospitals were the first units to move down, the retrograde movement commencing on the 16th. On the 18th the battalion paraded at 9 o'clock for the first march to Idak. And what a treat it was to be on the move once more with the thought of comfort and cantonments within a couple of weeks or so. The march down was quite uneventful, the frontier being once more crossed and Bannu reached by the 20th. Since marching up in July, a tonga road had been surveyed running from Bannu to Miran Shah, and this was progressing wonderfully, considering it had been projected but a few months previously. Large gangs of Waziris were busy all along its lengths, and no doubt within another twelve months or so the bell of the ubiquitous tonga will be heard as far west as Miran Shah, nearly fifty miles beyond our frontier, and one hundred and fifty from a railway station. The part of the road between Saidgi and Kajuri will be a fine piece of engineering when completed, as the track at that part runs along the edge of the hills enclosing the river, and the road will have to be cut from the solid rock nearly all the way. A good bit is in construction now, and the advanced guard of the 19th January took advantage of the present path to escape continually fording the Tochi, which was over the knee in its deeper channels. This was not without some danger though, as the Waziri navvy is not particular when blasting, and some have quite unconcernedly gone aloft while ramming the charge home.

There was some rain on arrival at Saidgi, history almost repeating itself, as we had been washed out at this camp on our way up in July; but this time it merely laid the dust, and the long march into Bannu was done in excellent style. In fact the whole march down to Khushalgarh was accomplished in splendid time and form, each succeeding company as it led the regiment day by day seeming to try record-breaking. The marching was timed on many an occasion at one hundred and twenty-four to the minute, and with a long swinging pace of not a fraction less than thirty-four inches some idea can be gained of the rate of marching.

At Saidgi we overtook our friends the Sappers, but left them at Bannu together with the Mountain Battery which we had escorted from Miran Shah.

At Bannu we pitched our last camp, the large permanent encampment of E. P. tents which we had occupied in July last being used by the reservists of the various regiments of the Punjab Frontier Force who were up for their annual training. At Lataannur and all subsequent camps to Khushalgarh the tents we had occupied going up had been left standing, and so the fatigue of pitching and striking camp every day was obviated. It was an ideal march, the road all the way being in excellent condition and the baggage with few exceptions went splendidly. Eleven consecutive days' march, however, told considerably upon the trans-

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port, and the camels were at Kohat exchanged for bullock carts, which were after much persuasion coaxed into carrying in our baggage safely to Khushalgarh, though it required no little effort to induce them to climb the long incline to the railway station after the bridge of boats over the Indus had been crossed. This last march from Gambat was perhaps the most trying of all, it being nearly sunset before the rear guard had arrived in camp. It was a marvellous incentive to marching, however, the strange and distant sound of a friendly railway whistle, and the steady "puff, puff," of a pumping engine as the goal was reached, on the east bank of the river Indus, had almost as invigorating an effect upon weary limbs as a band, and the steep wind leading into the last camp was successfully overcome. Here "G" and "H" Companies had to pitch their own tents as the standing camp was only sufficient to accommodate six companies. For the last two marches we had followed the Sappers along the road, they having left Bannu only one day after our departure and overtook us at Kohat owing to having combined two marches into one. They left the same night for Rurki.

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The battalion did not leave Khushalgarh until the following evening, Saturday 29th, two trains being requisitioned, our entraining strength being just under 620 rank and file. Not a bad strength after over seven months campaigning in such a notoriously unhealthy spot as the Tochi has proved itself to be. The left half battalion left first at 8-30 P.M., the right half following about 10 P.M. The battalion paraded in the warm winter coats, greatcoats and a blanket being taken to the carriages for night use, and the remainder of the kit packed away until required at the first rest camp before Bareilly. Rawalpindi was reached on Sunday morning, the two troops trains arriving about 6 and 8 A.M., respectively. The day was spent in the rest camp, it not being thought advisable to allow any one out of camp. Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, who had left at Kohat to proceed to Nowshera, here rejoined and resumed command of the battalion from Major Napier. Before leaving Khushalgarh the Sergeants of the battalion had received an invitation from the Sergeants of the Gordons depôt at West Ridge to breakfast, but our old comrades the Somersets had anticipated matters and had an excellent breakfast ready spread for our Sergeants in the rest camp soon after our arrival. The Gordons not to be outdone in hospitality, however, brought over a tiffin and the senior non-commissioned officers spent a most enviable day. A good many visitors, too, came over from the regiments in garrison during the day, and the appearance of the canteen, during the few hours it was open, seemed to suggest that there were few teetotallers in the battalion, though the mystery was where the money came from, as there had been no pay day for a considerable time. Wonderful are the ways and means, however, of the private soldier.

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The half battalion left somewhat earlier this evening, the ride to Mian Mir being longer than that from Khushalgarh, and the old familiar rest camp was our home for the last day of January 1897, an uncomfortable day, as a high wind was blowing and Mian Mir is not the most pleasant place, as many of us know, on a windy day. The next halt was Umballa, where the 3rd Rifle Brigade, who have fortunately now nearly recovered from the sickness contracted in the Tochi, were most hospitable, "C" Company of ours being taken to a substantial meal by "C" Company of the Rifles, while their Sergeants had a mess over in the rest camp and a capital breakfast for their brother non-commissioned officers of ours. In the afternoon kits were got out and everything made ready for marching into Bareilly on the following morning in full war paint.

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The goal of our hopes, Bareilly, was reached the next morning, the two half battalions marching in about 9 and 10 o'clock, respectively. On arrival it was found that the battalion would have to go under canvas until the Scottish Rifles, who were in garrison, moved

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away to Lucknow; even then there would not be sufficient accommodation for more than half the battalion, as the depôt of the Derbyshire Regiment was in possession. Our depôt had travelled from Nowshera a week or so previously and was encamped close to a bungalow used as a temporary orderly room and quartermaster's store, the proper orderly room being occupied by the Derbyshire Regiment, whose head-quarters are with the Tirah Field Force and may be expected to return at any time, as the possibility of any fighting in that direction at present seems as remote as it was in the Tochi.

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On the afternoon of the 4th February the Cameronians moved off to Lucknow, the barracks being taken over the next day, as many bungalows as would accommodate four companies. On the "A" "B," "C" and "D" Companies and the band moved into barracks, the depôt of the Derbyshire Regiment occupying the remainder of the bungalows, necessarily the left-half battalion remained under canvas until moving to Shahjehanpur, which move was expected to take place at an early date. Up to the present, however, there seems no likelihood of a half battalion going there, as the right half are under orders to proceed to Chaubatia. This will leave the left half battalion to garrison Bareilly until the return of the Derbyshire Regiment from Tirah.

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A couple of small detachments have already gone to Ranikhet and Chaubatia for duty with the winter section, and Lieutenant McCandlish was to take over our summer quarters at the latter place. According to all accounts it is still winter in the hills and snow is lying deep in some of the passes leading from Naini Tal to Ranikhet. It must still be very cold at an altitude of 6,000 and 7,000 feet.

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It seems to be generally regretted by all ranks that we are not remaining at Bareilly for good instead of having ot disperse to so many places for the summer. For the next six months or so we shall be split up into many detachments, as in addition to the two main wings at Chaubatia and Bareilly, respectively, there is Shahjehanpore to be garrisoned and Ranikhet will no doubt need some more details for duty in addition to the small party already sent there. However, things will have to be made the best of until our reunion, D. V. (after our late experiences it is just as well to be prepared for any emergency) here at Bareilly next drill season.

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Crosses are to be erected over the forty odd graves we have left in the Tochi wherever it is possible, and a subscription is being raised for that purpose. Unfortunately the graves at Sheranni cannot now be identified, but at Datta Khel, Miran Shah and Saidgi posts crosses will be put up over the last resting places of the poor fellows who succumbed to the climate of that deadly valley. It is also proposed, we believe, and it is to be hoped that such an excellent idea will not be allowed to drop, that a memorial should be placed in the old Grayfriars Church at Stirling inscribed with the names of those who died on the late expedition. Here their friends and relations may be able to see it and to draw some consolation from knowing that those who have died doing their duty under most trying circumstances are not entirely forgotten by their comrades who have been fortunate enough to have been spared.

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Since in Bareilly things have been fairly gay in the Sergeants' Mess with three smoking and one ordinary concert. The smokers were to bid farewell to members of the mess in the persons of Quartermaster-Sergeant (O. R. S.) Macintosh, Sergeant Murray and Sergeant Drummer Mackie, the first going home for discharge and the second as an invalid. In the three first entertainments there was not a great display of talent on the programme and recourse had to be had to chorus round long before "Auld Lang Syne" or "The Queen" were due. The evenings, however, were of a most convivial nature, and a

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lack of musical talent among the company in no way retarded the brisk circulation of the refreshments.

The concert on the 15th March was altogether of a different order, and to Bandmaster Davies and Sergeant Gunn, in whose hands lay the management, the greatest praise was due. The programme contained the names of several new arrivals who should be great acquisitions to the variety department of the long dormant Regimental Dramatic Club whenever that body is resuscitated.

Captain and Mrs. Aitken and Miss Brand, 2nd Lieutenant C. A. H. and Mrs. Maclean, Major Napier and most of the officers were present, whilst there were also visitors from the 70th Field Battery and the Derbyshire Regiment.

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Sergeant R. Miller and Privates Smith, Kerr, Browne, Cooke and Hamilton, regimental signallers, are away to Peshawar to join one of the Divisions of the Tirah Field Force. Captain Cameron is also away as Brigade Transport Officer.

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Pipe-Major Ferguson and Sergeants Smith and Tyndall are away home on six months' furlough.

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The rate of exchange for the payment of British troops in India for the ensuing twelve months from 1st April has been fixed at one shilling and threepence farthing the rupee.

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2nd Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean has passed in subjects (a) and (b) for promotion.

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The annual inspection by the General Officer Commanding Rohilkhand District, commenced on Wednesday, 23rd March, and continued, excepting Thursday, till Saturday, 26th. The inspection was very suddenly ordered and there was no time for any elaborate preparation. It had been thought that having been on field service for so long would have exempted the battalion from this trying ordeal. However, everything passed off as satisfactorily as could be expected and the few shortcomings incidental to having been so long away from the usual routine of cantonment work were overlooked.

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The General's inspection had been preceded on the 15th and 16th March by the inspection by the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General for Musketry, 1st Circle, Bengal Command. This inspection passed off most satisfactorily.

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Brigade field-firing took place over the sand-hills lying south of Bareilly on 11th March, the general idea being that a body of well-armed raiders was advancing to loot Bareilly city and had on the night of the 10th March encamped somewhere in the vicinity of the before-mentioned sand-hills. The Officer Commanding Bareilly determined to destroy them, however, before they could cross the bridge of boats at Sirdarnagar, and a cavalry reconnaissance on the evening of the 10th reported that the enemy having heard of the Officer Commanding Bareilly's intentions had taken up a position on the sand-hills to await the attack. This being the case orders were issued for the Bareilly force, consisting of three squadrons, 8th Bengal Cavalry, 70th Field Battery, Royal Artillery, 14th Bombay Infantry, Depôt 12th Bengal Infantry, and last but no least ourselves to rendezvous about two miles out of the road to Sirdarnagar at 7-45 A. M. on the 11th. In pursuance of these orders, the battalion paraded at 6-45 A.M. in drill order, with water bottles and havresacks, and marched to the rendezvous, being the first arrivals. Here there was a longish wait to allow the field battery and Bombay Infantry to pass, but the force soon got into column of route and advanced towards the bridge over the Ramgunga River at Sirdarnagar. The force here again fell out and waited for the guns and "G" and "H" Companies of ours (who were to cover the attack by firing long range volleys) to get into position, it being noon before a general advance was made across the bridge of boats, which by the way was a bridge of pontoons, into the sandy ground on the business side of the stream. When over the river the brigade was formed for attack, the Bombay Infantry being in the first line whilst ours extended in columns of half battalions, formed

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the second. The guns soon got into action and for about half an hour or so there was nothing to do but to lie down and watch the shrapnel burst round the screens representing the enemy. The long range volleys were hardly so effective at first as might have been wished, owing to the range being somewhat over-estimated. After the artillery had accounted for a few screens, the Bombay Infantry commenced the medium range of the attack, and we followed in waves of double companies, the first reinforcement striking the firing line as the decisive range was reached. After this the advance continued by short rushes, and despite the numerous casualties there was a frightful mass of kilts and turbans in front of the final position when the halt was sounded after the final charge.

The practice must be considered a most successful one, the targets being completely riddled with bullets, especially a prominent figure on a white horse which was so realistic that at first no one would fire in its direction, the men being under the impression that it was a stray native who had somehow or other wandered on to the ground. When the mistake was discovered, however, the figure received full attention and the result was certainly complimentary to the marksmanship of the force.

After the final assault and the supposed enemy had been quite driven off, the force reformed and marched back through the sand across the river by the bridge. There was then a halt for an hour or so, during which time dinners were eaten, the cooks having followed the battalion from barracks and having prepared the meal whilst the attack was developing. After dinner the brigade fell in and marched home and barracks were reached somewhere about four o'clock.

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2nd Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean is away to Peshawar, conducting a party of the Derbyshire Regiment to join their head-quarters with the Tirah force. He will, no doubt, be back in time, however, to proceed to the hills with "C" Company on the 4th instant.

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There is an excellent cricket ground here in Bareilly, and the regiment have played a couple of matches or so with unfortunately indifferent success.

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The Rohilcund Rifle Volunteers gave a most enjoyable "At Home" at the Bareilly Club on the evening of the 22nd February; dancing continuing until two or three o'clock on the following morning. The regiment was well represented, most of the officers and many members of the Sergeants' Mess being present and thoroughly enjoying the hospitality of the Volunteers.

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We take this from the *Morning Post*:—

The Tochi despatches have given the names of those individual officers and non-commissioned officers who distinguished themselves, but in truth there was no opportunity for individual distinction at any time, except in the Medical and the Commissariat Departments. But, after the publication of the despatches, there was a wide feeling of regret that no more mention was made of the staunchness and gallant bearing of the troops themselves. It has been a soldiers' campaign. Whatever success has followed from the expedition has been gained by the endurance and pluck of soldier and sepoy alike. Sympathy is due to the regiments that suffered the most, and especially to the fine battalion of the Rifle Brigade, that has been utterly ruined by sickness and death; but something more than sympathy is due to the regiments that came through all the trying time, and still did all they were asked to do. "If we could only have a brush with the enemy it would do us good," the men used to say. But no excitement came and day after day they had to dig their comrades' graves, or attend their comrades' funerals. And yet the Highlanders stuck bravely to their posts, and responded to every call made on them. It would have made a Scotchman proud to see the 93rd on New Year's Day turned out for General Egerton's last inspection, as clean and smart as on their own parade ground, and it made us all proud to see the 93rd and that splendid regiment, the 14th Sikhs, and the 3rd Punjab Mountain Battery camped together at Miran Shah. No finer or smarter representatives of the different arms of the Indian Army could be found in the Empire. And now our last thoughts must be for those whom we are leaving behind. Something has been gained from the expedition, but it has been at a fearful price. Over a hundred of our comrades, cut off in the very bloom of life, lie buried in the Tochi Valley. Their memories are respected, and their graves will be tended. Peace be to their souls.

"Now you get all day to-night and all night to-morrow morning to get those kilts clean," said a certain Colour Sergeant to his company on parade the other day, and he wondered why a titter went down the ranks.

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The Para Pael.

—o—

Corporal James Alexander,

No. 957 Private Arthur Wilkins,

No. 221 Private Joseph O'Callaghan,

No. 873 Private James Tasker,

killed in action, are struck off the strength of the battalion from this date.

. . . . .

It was hot, hot as a furnace, in that accursed valley, and the men of the regiment—one of the regiments left on the line of communication—knew all the weariness that can come to living men.

The hills sloped up from the thread of stream that soaked through the boulders, a thousand feet high, burnt out piles of shale and rock with sparse bushes, so rare and starved that they hardly put the note of green into the landscape. From the summits of the hills that clasped this scorching pass there was nothing to be seen but wave on wave of farther hills, all grey and stony and blasted, with here and there a thin thread of verdure which showed that there was life in this network of stoke-holes.

The regiment whom the lot of war had cast down in this foretaste of hell lived on the hill side in huts they had made of the boulders, and roofed with their tents d'abri. Tinned beef in which the fat was liquid from the heat, goat flesh, beef that was all gristle, tea that the muddy water made only one degree less nasty than the water by itself, ship's biscuit and commissariat bread that was as hard as the biscuit, were the only food.

The village that lay in the centre of the valley with its fruit trees, its group of stone huts, its oblong field of grain, won by the water out of the most unlikely soil in the world, was out of bounds to the soldiers, for the hillmen, in dirty brown garments which had once been white, who squatted like vultures in the miniature village square, were dangerous, though friends and allies for the moment, and Tommy is sometimes aggressive, especially when he thinks there are petticoats mewed up somewhere, and the tempers of the hillmen are like tinder and their long-bladed knives are so easy to draw.

Outpost duty continually, and every night shots fired into camp by the good, dirty-coated friends who squatted in blissful unconsciousness on their roofs in the day-time, and who at night stole off to cut up an unwary sentry, to massacre a few camp followers, hamstring a camel or two in the transport lines, or fire shots at intervals into the camp, and next day gave circumstantial evidence that it was the men of a neighbouring and rival village who had done these things, and volunteered for the van of a raid against the offenders.

Four times a week the transport trains passed through the valley, twice going up, twice going back, to feed the force that was doing the fighting at the front, and for four days the battalion from the first gleam of day until dark had to hold the ridges of the bordering hills, joining hands with a regiment of Gurkhas who were camped some four miles further up the line of communication in the next valley.

It was work that tried the strongest and most cheerful, those watches through the heat while the long train of mules and camels wound through the valley, and then the return to the red-hot camp to spend a night of restless sleep punctuated by alarms.

Private O'Callaghan was always a little queer. A splendid shot, a grand fighter, a man of bursts of garrulousness and long silences, irritable under discipline, a hot lover and fiery hater, a man easily goaded to reckless resistance, and hating the corporal of his squad because he, the corporal, was stolid, and tactless, and methodical, and his dull weight of authority acted like a rasp on the irritable Irish nature.

There was a little detached point on the ridge between two of the hill-tops, where a goat-path came over and dropped to the village, which was always held on convoy days by three men and a non-commissioned officer. It was a link in the chain. Six hundred yards away to the right, on a fairly flat space, was a company, and to the left another; they swept the ground to either side; but the path had to be watched, for using the cover of the rocks, through which towards the summit the path wound, a man or two might creep up it and make things lively for the caravan and its drivers, in the valley—indeed, where the path crossed the ridge was always a favourite spot for the midnight "snipers," and at nights there were always a few rifles "laid" by the help of forked sticks on this especial point.

The 13th of July the camp was all astir. Before the grey of day the men had drunk their tea and munched at their bread, and in silence each little party, with its scouts ahead, had dragged like a wounded snake up the hillside to the points of watching. Corporal Alexander with Tasker, a young soldier who was one of the company's signallers, and carried his flag strapped across his back, and Wilkins, who was a mere recruit, and O'Callaghan, the soldier, moved up to where the little goat-path crossed the old ridge, Tasker ahead as a scout and O'Callaghan, the last of the party, and as he climbed the hill the Irishman was muttering to himself.

Under a patch of shadow which a big rock threw the three who were not on duty sat and lay, and at mid-day made a fire of camel dung, and cooked their meal in their canteen lids.

O'Callaghan was first for sentry, and stood looking towards the east, silent, but with his lips moving. The others lolled about, their rifles in their hands, until the grey had turned to silver, the silver to the pure white of the dawn. Then they laid their rifles all three together on the stones, and went and sat leaning their backs against the big rock, chatting to each other.

The signaller was "called up" from the company on the right, flapped "all's well" to right and left, and then went back to the rock and his chat as to the vileness of the commissariat stores, and when the whole disgusting business would be at an end.

The red sun bobbed up with jerks over the rim of the hills, and the light struck on the Irishman's worn face—a face with great purple patches under the eyes, sunken cheeks, and a ragged beard.

"Is it his last?" he said half-aloud, as he gazed at the scarlet ball. "Is it his last?"

"What are you saying, O'Callaghan?" asked the corporal.

"What was I saying?" answered the man. "Nothing."

"And the best thing, too, on sentry-go," said the corporal, leaning back again against the rock.

The reek of smoke rose from the village, and hung like a pall in the still air; the rising of the sun seemed to draw up all the stench of that hateful valley, the smell of the dead camels that lay and rotted, and all the other unclean things.

"Is it his last? Is it his last?"

A horseman came cantering through the valley with an escort of sowars, a staff officer, and the officers of

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the pickets looked enviously at him, for the lucky fellow was off to the front, not doomed like them to sit and wait for an attack that never came. The sun crept higher up the heavens, no longer a ball now, but a great blaze that no man could look at, and the first of the camels of the train were already in the pass, ungainly beasts, lobbing and swaying under their great loads.

"Is it his last? Is it his last?"

From under a stone near O'Callaghan's feet a little black scorpion came, and with its tail curved ready to repel any attack, surveyed the surrounding world.

The Irishman caught sight of it, and brought his rifle to the ready.

"It is the sign," he said almost under his breath. "He has sent the Dara Dael, as sign. It is the sign."

"What are you grunting at?" said the corporal, sitting up again, and then in a second the thing happened. There was a report, and the corporal, with a little hole in his forehead and a great tear behind, fell back again between the two boys, for they were nothing else, a dead man.

Both, directly they knew what had happened, jumped to their feet and made a move towards their arms; but the Irishman, with his eyes glaring and his clenched teeth showing between his parted lips brought his rifle, the magazine, "on" to his shoulder: "Don't stir for your lives," he said; and the boys sat down again.

"He brought it on hisself and the sign came, the sign came."

"They are calling me up from the company," said Tasker.

"Then stand up and answer," replied O'Callaghan; and under the madman's eye, with the rifle always threatening, the signaller flapped to the company, in answer to a query, that Private O'Callaghan's rifle had been accidentally discharged.

The camels and the mules were streaming through the pass by now, and away on the right a bugle sounded "the alert." The boys heard it, but with O'Callaghan it fell on deaf ears. A thin stream of blood had run from under the dead man lying against the rock, had trickled over the slab on which the boys sat, and soaked under the stone where the scorpion lay. The little reptile came out again.

"It's the Dara Dael, bhoys. It's the fiend's own insect, that which he sends for a sign. It was that that led the murderers to the dear Lord Jesus Christ when Judas lost his soul, and it's come to me as a sign. I've sold my soul, boys, for the pleasure of killing that man, and the Dara Dael is here, and having it, there's the strength in me of a hundred men to do what I will."

O'Callaghan opened the little hollow in the butt of his rifle and shook out its contents, then dropping on his knee caught the reptile, thrust it by force into the hollow and closed the cover with a snap.

"I've sold my soul to hell, bhoys, for the pleasure of this one day, and for this one day there is no man like me for strength and courage."

"There's something up," said the white-faced Tasker, who had his eye on the company, "and they are calling me up again."

"Sit still and don't dare to move, or I'll blow your brains out like I've done that dead dog's. It came to Judas first and it has come to me now, and praise and glory to him that sent it for giving me my will of my enemy."

There was a shot on the right and the rattle of a section volley from the left.

"It's an attack," said both of the boys at once with a gasp, and moved towards their rifles.

"Sit down or you're dead men. What's an attack to me? There's nothing can bring harm to me this day, and the strength of a thousand is mine. Sit down, I say, or I'll blow your souls to hell."

There was shouting in the valley as the frightened camel-drivers urged their beasts on and the rattle of musketry grew. It was an attack in force, and from right and left there came the echoing roll; only the rifles at the goat path were dumb, for the madman stood with staring eyes watching the limp dead man and the two boys seated against the great rock, and in a monotone repeating again and again that his soul was lost.

Something in brown slipped from one stone to another, not thirty yards away; then another figure and another. There was the "bang" of a jezail, and the Irishman's helmet went spinning off his head. For a second it sent him sane. "Stand to your arms!" he shouted. "Corporal, it's an attack!"

It was too late. As Tasker stooped to pick up his rifle, he was shot through the heart, and sprawled face down; the other boy jumped like a rabbit with a bullet in his brain.

The rocks were alive with the enemy.

And the might of the fighting man came upon O'Callaghan, and clubbing his rifle, he sprang across the space between him and the figures amongst the rocks. Crash came the butt on one's shaven head, and the brain-pan crashed with the blow! crash, and the wood splintered on another head; but as he raised the barrel to strike once again, the long knife got home first, and cut through the shoulder down to the heart; O'Callaghan dropped, a dead man.

From right and left detached parties from the pickets came hurrying down the ridge towards the goat-path, firing as they came; but the fight was over; the attack had failed except at this one point, and the men at the goat-path went back as they had come like wolves, gliding from stone to stone.

The men of their company carried back the dead to camp.

"Shot with a stolen rifle," they said when they looked at the corporal. "It is curious how they hit him were he was."

The sergeant in charge of the party, as he picked up the bent barrel of O'Callaghan's rifle, noticed that among the fragments of the splintered butt a little maimed scorpion writhed and arched its tail to sting. He put his heel upon it and crushed the life out of it.

N. N.-D. in *The Man of the World.*

—:o:—

Good Bye to the Tochi Valley.

—:o:—

(AIR:—*We'll never come back no more.*)

I

We'll bid farewell to Tochi Vale,
That valley is unkind
Waziristan and Sadda Khan
We'll leave them both behind;
We'll say good bye without a sigh
To friendlies, fords, and war;
A course we'll set
For Ranikhet
And we'll never come back no more.

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Chorus.

We'll never come back no more, boys,
Never come back no more ;
Get in the train and travel again,
This wearisome work is o'er ;
We're leaving the wild Waziri
Very much as he was before,
Hurrah for the route,
We'll go right about,
And we'll never come back no more.

II

We camped upon Sherani plain
And there we dug a well ;
And Rustomjee that bold Parsee
Came up his goods to sell ;
At cent per cent his beer it went
Till fever smote him sore,
He pouched his coins,
Girt up his loins,
And he'll never come back no more.

Chorus.

He'll never come back no more, boys,
Never come back no more ;
He's got in the train and never again
Will he open his humble store ;
He left us a great deal thinner
Than he ever had been before,
And his heart was'nt stout,
So he turned him about,
And he'll never come back no more.

III

That weary westward road we've trod
And Maizar set ablaze ;
We've convoyed mules along the road,
And taken "oonts" to graze ;
The graceful "oont' his grub must hunt
Alone in future, for
In Southern parts
They've transport carts,
So we'll never graze "oonts" no more.

Chorus

We'll never graze "oonts" no more, boys,
Never graze "oonts' no more ;
Get in the train and travel again,
This wearisome work is o'er ;
Good-bye to the twelve-mile marches
Which they told us were only four,
We'll wear out our boots
In other pursuits,
And we'll never come back no more.

IV

Good-bye to picquets, posts, patrols,
And sleeping on the ground,
The sniping shot, which may, or not
Reward you with a wound ;
The flies that eat our ration meat
(How oft at them we swore),—
Good-bye, good bye,
Accursed fly,
We'll never come back no more.

Chorus.

We'll never come back no more, boys,
Never come back no more ;
Get in the train and travel again,
That wearisome work is o'er ;
And when we at last get orders
To sail for old England's shore,
Great grief I'll not sham,
For I don't care—in the very slightest degree
If I never see Tochi more.

—o—

THE LAST COLUMN.

When orders were received on the night of the 27th November at Boya to furnish 225 rifles for Datta Khel, to form part of a column proceeding in the direction of Maizar and Sherani, feelings were decidedly mixed. The telegram arrived on the night of the second bonfire concert, and it seemed to give the lie to one of the catchy lines of Guy Watson's popular song—

We haven't much longer now to do
In the Tochi Valley O !

and a new lease to the anything but popular life of the Tochi Field Force.

After the surrender of Sadda Khan and the successful result of the Jirga at Ismail Khel, resulting in the break-up of the third Kazha Column and our despatch to Boya, the advanced camp at Sheranni had been abandoned and the 1st Sikhs and other details which we had left there on the 25th October last had returned to the G. O. C.'s head-quarters at Datta Khel. This early retrograde movement, however, had not apparently met with the approval of the Punjab Government, and another forward movement towards the Upper Tochi, to let the Madda Khel, who had been allowed to return to their villages, see that the *Sircar* was still in force in the neighbourhood, was the consequence.

"A," "B" and "E" Companies were selected to form our contingent to the force, and these three companies under Major Campbell marched off to Datta Khel on the morning of the 29th November, parading just after 9 A.M. The march was quite uneventful, and the last of the baggage and rear-guard was in camp by about 3 o'clock. General Egerton also returned to Datta Khel on the same day with the head-quarters of the 1st Brigade. After having been at Boya by ourselves, it was quite a pleasure to be at a large post like Datta Khel, with its large and varied garrison, its busy main street and its comparatively substantial-looking mud buildings of all descriptions, messes, quarters, hospitals, post and telegraph offices, and the like. On Tuesday there was nothing on, arrangements for the despatch of the column not having been completed, so after the morning parade for inspection of arms, there was little to do and the troops amused themselves by exploring the post and bazaar and by visiting the grave-yard.

When we passed through Datta Khel during August last Colonel Bunny's and the three

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other's, victims of the Maizar treachery, were the only graves in the little cemetery there, but that number has been considerably increased since then and there are now forty-two cairns of stones of larger or smaller dimensions outside the east wall of Datta Khel post. Colonel Bunny's grave is, of course, the largest in the cemetery, and in connection with it a very interesting incident was witnessed during our stay there. The sepoys of Colonel Bunny's regiment, the 1st Sikhs, frequently visit the grave, and on the occasion in question two or three of them, young soldiers, perhaps, who had never known this Colonel of their regiment, did not pay the respect due to it. Their conduct did not escape the notice of another sepoy, however, who was there before them, and he soundly rated them for not salaaming the grave of the good "Colonel Sahib." Although dead, Colonel Bunny's memory is still fondly cherished by his brave sepoys; they still point out his fish-pond, fed by a spring which bubbles up in some mossy soil,—a rare thing in the Tochi,—and his garden, for they are *zamindar log* and love to raise home produce in the way of vegetables when resting from the sterner realities of war.

In the afternoon orders were issued for the advance the next day, when the column was, in addition to ourselves, to consist of 40 sabres, 1st Punjab Cavalry; 2 guns, No. 3 Peshawar Mountain Battery; 2 Companies, 1st Punjab Infantry; in all about five hundred men, with Major Campbell commanding and Captain Sydney Robinson as staff officer. On the next day, 1st December, the column marched to Sheranni, occupying the camp in which the Rifle Brigade had stayed whilst in the first brigade, and which was supposed to be responsible for so much of their sickness. As we did not march until 10 o'clock, it was somewhat late before every thing was settled, but with so small a force there was little to be done, and no time was ever lost in getting comfortable. On the following day there was another rest except for the cavalry, (and a picquet of ours on No. III Picquet Hill to cover the reconnaissance), who went out to Maizar with Major Campbell and the staff. During the day, too, the "helio" was busy with Datta Khel, and towards the evening orders were received to march to Maizar next day.

Before the final abandonment of Sheranni as an advanced post, our comrades, the 1st Sikhs, had very thoughtfully built a strong loose stone dyke, as high as a man, round the little cemetery, to which there were many visitors from the column during the day; and although the twenty-four mounds of earth cannot now be identified, the limits of this God's Acre have at any rate been defined and the graves should be safe from intrusion. For how long they may remain so is merely a matter for conjecture, far away as they will be from the gleam of the bayonet of a trusty sentinel.

Friday, 3rd, saw us off to Maizar at 9-15 A.M. The road was a difficult one for camels, but everything swung along safely, and the afternoon saw the camp prepared for a few days' stay, as it was more than likely that we should remain some time at Maizar. The camping-ground selected was on some high ground beyond the Shawal Algad, commanding the whole of the Maizar settlements and at the foot of some long spurs running up to the hill of Charmina. The kots were almost as we left them in July, and it was only towards the evening, when over the small hills around the villages herds of cattle and camels could be seen straggling homewards, that the least signs of habitation became apparent. Now that the autumn had arrived, the trees in the valley had mostly lost their leaves, and this with the ruins of the mud houses, from which here and there smoke ascended against the cold winter sky, as though the avenging fires of our retribution were still smouldering, made about as dismal a picture as it would be possible to conceive. Truly Maizar has paid dearly for its treachery. Its fertile terraced fields were once the fairest in the Tochi.

On the following day another visit was paid to the scene of the attack, where the bones of the mules which accompanied Colonel Bunny's force were still strewn about as they had been on 26th July; the trees, under which the officers were having lunch when the first shot was fired from the now levelled walls, were lying prone as they had been left by the gun-cotton of the avenging sappers, dry and withered; occasionally a native could be seen crawling in and out about the ruins, and a pariah dog lying basking in the sun would slink away as a stranger approached, desolation seeming everywhere: the ripple of the running water in the irrigation channels as it meandered through the stubble fields was quite a relief to the general monotony of the place.

In the evening there was a bonfire concert, the gunners of the Mountain Battery adding to the programme with a performing bear entertainment. A sepoy costumed in several posteen jackets turned hairy side outward making a very excellent bruin, and alluded in the vernacular to the unpopularity of service in the Tochi and the anxiety of all to return to India and civilisation once more. Steaming cocoa, kindly provided by the officers, was handed round during the intervals, and despite the cold a very merry evening was spent.

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Next day there was a half-way escort to Datta Khel, sending in some spare transport, and orders for return were received by "helio." The march to Datta Khel on the morrow was a longish one for the transport, but all arrived safe and sound, and we encamped at our old camping ground south-east of Datta Khel post, near where the 33rd Punjab Infantry enclosure of last July had been, this time alongside No. 2 Company Sappers and Miners. Again there was nothing on the morrow, the 7th, and in the evening the 1st Punjab Infantry treated us to a Kattack dance. It is not an easy matter to describe the uncouth nature of this kind of entertainment; it needs to be seen to be properly appreciated. A number of Pathans, dressed in their best, range themselves in a circle, round the bonfire, each, if possible, armed with a drawn sword; then the music, consisting of a couple of *tom-toms* or so and a pipe, something like a chanter, but most ear-piercing in its higher notes, starts, and the circle, a mass of flowing robes and turbans, commences to sway and vibrate and eventually to work round. Gradually the music becomes faster and faster and the circle keeps time to it, swinging and swaying, and occasionally giving vent to a yell like a Highlander's "heugh" the dancers seem to work themselves almost into a frenzy and the naked weapons, as they are waved about in a kind of frantic sword exercise, consisting exclusively of sweeping cuts, glisten dangerously in the fire-light; slowly the energy of dancer and musician cools down, and the ring melts away into the crowd of spectators until it is wanted again. The fun, however, never flagged, for as soon as this performance was over a solo dancer commenced, and there was also a duet, and some marvellous display of sword-swinging combined with what a Pathan considers dancing. A Sikh sepoy, too, of the regiment, gave a sword-swinging display sitting on his knees, and appeared to have a wonderful wrist. Pipers Lynch and McLean and Privates McGillvray and Given of ours, also danced a forsome reel, and Piper McLean a sword dance and fling in addition. By request Lance-Corporal Watson sang his song "The Tochi, O!" and altogether a very jolly, if rough-and-tumble, evening was spent. The crowd round the ring at all times was enormous, and it is simply wonderful how the various police under the 1st Brigade Provost-Sergeant managed to keep any order at all. General Corrie Bird and most of the officers were present, and nearly the whole of Datta Khel not on duty.

Nothing was done on the 8th or 9th December except wait patiently for orders, which were eventually issued on the afternoon of the latter date. Rumour had been busy for several days with the report that the column would probably proceed up the Kazha before breaking up, and rumour, in this instance, proved correct. During the last few days the weather had become very threatening, and where the clouds had lifted snow could be seen on all the hills surrounding Datta Khel, so it was somewhat doubtful whether the column would be able to move on the 10th or not, but the weather, although still threatening, kept fine until the afternoon of that date, and the advance to the Kazha took place. The first day's march was over the Tochi and by the road, constructed by the Sappers during the second Kazha Column, to Ismail Khel, where the old camping ground was occupied. Almost as soon as the column arrived, and before the tents could be pitched, a fine drizzle had commenced and the hills all around became enveloped in a heavy mist; this turned to rain as the evening advanced and a heavy downpour continued all night. The spirits of the men, however, did not seem in any way damped by inclemency of the weather and nearly every tent had a candle-light sing-song until the "post" sounded.

It was still raining next morning, but cleared up somewhat as mid-day was reached, and by two in the afternoon the column was able to march, the baggage being allowed to precede the main body. Soon after starting rain again commenced, and the march to Isham was hardly an enjoyable one, though troubles were forgotten by the time the rum was drawn. Isham Camp was on a plateau above the Sortoi Nullah, at an altitude of about 6,000, and promised a coldish night. In this we were not disappointed, as there was a frightfully sharp frost, registering, according to the medical authorities, nearly twenty degrees. At any rate it was sufficient to make the tents, which had been wetted by the previous day's rain, like boards, and it is no exaggeration to say that when they were unlaced in the morning it was possible to turn back the flies like opening a door on hinges. Any water that had been in the buckets was solid ice, and the ground was covered with hoar frost and rang like metal under one's feet. The hills all around as far as the eye could reach, to Dadam and the "Dwa Nashtar," were a mass of snow, except for a few pine forests on the higher and more distant slopes, and the sunrise was a picture worth travelling miles to see.

The march this day (Sunday 12th) was to Sorati *via* the Duga Nullah, a longish march, but it was ideal weather for tramping, and with the baggage in advance no time was lost. The camp at Sorati was the one occupied on previous occasions and needs no description.

The next day the column broke up, the Cavalry, Guns and Punjab Infantry marching up the

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Tochi to Datta Khel, whilst we returned to Boya to rejoin head-quarters, getting in about 2 P.M. Whilst away the camp at Boya had been somewhat curtailed and a brushwood zareba formed as a defence against any night rush, though there was hardly any likelihood of a repetition of the Wano disaster despite the proximity of the Mahsud Waziri country and the many reports of Mahsud badmashes on the prowl in the neighbourhood.

Although most were glad to be back again in Boya, owing to its comparative closeness to Bannu and thus to India, few regretted the outing, and during the whole time the column had been away, and despite the inclement weather, not half a dozen men had reported sick.

W. G.

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THE TOCHI EXPEDITION.

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PUBLICATION OF DESPATCHES.

The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council is pleased to direct the publication of letter from the Adjutant-General in India, submitting a despatch from Major-General G. C. Bird, C.B., Commanding the Tochi Field Force, describing the operations of that Force from June to November last. The Field Force has, under Major-General Bird, fully carried out the objects of the expedition, and the Governor-General in Council, in concurrence with His Excellency the Commander-in Chief, desires to express his high appreciation of the discipline, resolution, and patient endurance displayed by all ranks under the severe trials to which they have been exposed.

Major-General G. deC. Morton's letters says :—

The force has accomplished the object for which it was detailed, and the tribesmen have submitted to the terms imposed by the Government of India. Although practically unopposed by the enemy, the duties devolving on the troops have been of an unusually trying nature owing to the unhealthiness of the climate. Amidst much sickness, which has resulted in a heavy death-roll, the good discipline, the endurance, and the soldierly qualities of all ranks have been most marked, and are, in the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief, deserving of high commendation. His Excellency would draw attention to the excellent work which the Medical Department is reported to have performed during the operations, and to the good service rendered by the other departments of the force and by the officers whose names are mentioned in the despatch. I am desired to add that the Commander-in-Chief considers much credit is due to Major-General Bird for the manner in which he has conducted the operations committed to his charge.

The following are the most interesting parts of the despatch of Major-General G. Corrie Bird, C.B. Describing the march to Bannu, the General says : The Highlanders arrived at Bannu on the 7th and the Rifle Brigade on the 8th July, completing the force. The long march from Khushalgarh, performed at the hottest time of year along a waterless frontier, was, in my opinion, a very great trial of discipline and endurance, but all corps did it within the specified dates.

On the 20th July the 1st Brigade, with the exception of the 33rd Punjab Infantry, with two guns of No. 6 (Bombay) Mountain Battery under Brigadier-General Egerton, advanced on Sheranni. I accompanied this force. Sheranni was found to be deserted. and the 1st Punjab Cavalry moving on at once to Maizar, found it had been evacuated; one armed Madda Khel was shot. The name Maizar is applied generally to that part of the Shawal Valley, and includes numerous large fortified villages and a great deal of cultivation, watered by an excellent system of waterways carried along the hillsides. Some 500 men had kept abreast of the rear guard on the hill to the south, but disappeared as the force neared Sheranni. On the 21st July the destruction of the fortified *kots* of Sheranni was commenced and within ten days all such defences as far as Termor on the Tochi were levelled. Over 7,000 maunds of *bhusa*, some grain and a good number of arms and some Government and private property lost at Maizar were found. The troops worked admirably. During the first fortnight of the occupation of Sheranni the camp was constantly fired into at night, resulting in one man of the Highlanders being wounded and two mules killed; the use of star shell on the first night of firing and the posting of surprise parties outside the intrenchment so disconcerted the enemy that their subsequent efforts were confined to shooting from longer ranges. On the night of the 20th July a Powindah camel driver was killed and two wounded near Islam Chauki; there was no post occupied by our troops near to this.

On the 26th July the demolition of the villages in the Maizar and Upper Tochi valleys was begun, and within a month all the fortified *kots* had been destroyed. The troops, British and Native, vied with one another in this arduous duty, performed under a fierce sun and frequently amidst monsoon storms. During August small columns from all posts on the Line of Communications regularly scoured the whole country, north and south of the Tochi river. A party of 40 sabres of the 1st Punjab Cavalry was fired on near Maizar by Madda Khels on the 17th August, and next day I again had their main watercourses cut, and commenced the cutting of their ripening crops, and from this date onward for two months regular daily supply of green fodder was brought in by the transport; this was far the heaviest punishment that could be inflicted on the tribesmen, more especially as they had been down nightly to water their crops, in the hope of eventually reaping them should a settlement be arrived at.

On the 23rd August a strong column under Brigadier-General Egerton moved into the Kazha Valley. I accompanied the column. All the country as far as the Afghan border and to the west of Stara Bibi was surveyed. The troop returned to Sheranni on the 28th August. Early in September I was informed that some Madda Khels were being harboured in the Kazha and in consequence on the 11th of that month, a force consisting of the troops under the command of Brigadier-General Symons, proceeded up the valley. I joined the column at Ghazlamai. On the 13th September Brigadier-General Symons, with 800 infantry and unaccompanied by animals of any kind, made a night march from Pirakai to surprise the Dadam settlement of villages close to the Afghan border and said to belong to Sadda Khan, the head of the Madda Khels. The surprise was complete; only a few shots were fired and 270 head of cattle and sheep were brought in. A fine of Rs. 1,000 was taken in cattle; some arms were also captured. This was a most arduous day's duty, 26 miles being covered, the highest village reached being over 8,000 feet. The guns and baggage had followed at daylight and were overtaken by a mountain flood in a gorge, and had a narrow escape: one mule was drowned and some ammunition and stores lost. A gunner of the 3rd Mountain Battery very pluckily saved a comrade, for which he has been recommended for the Humane Society's medal.

Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon'ble M. Curzon assumed command of the 2nd Brigade on the 2nd October. On

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the 4th October a column left Sheranni to search the Zawe, Shawal and Cheena valleys. After passing Landi Khel a survey escort of 100 men was fired on from the slopes of Charmina and a sharp fire kept up; two sepoys of the 1st Sikhs were slightly wounded and one of the enemy hit. On the 9th and 10th the rear guard was fired on and a camel killed. On the 12th October a small reconnaissance party of cavalry accompanying Major Digby, R.E., and some other engineer officers, who were out reconnoitring the road for next day's march, were fired on from both sides of a steep nullah; Lieutenant Hingston, Royal Engineers, was slightly wounded, and his horse killed; one sowar of the 1st Punjab Cavalry and a horse were wounded, and the enemy, then firing at long range into the camp, wounded one follower and killed a mule. The mountain guns and a few volleys from camp soon cleared the heights.

On the 25th October Brigadier-General Egerton moved into the Kazha Valley, to examine and restore all the boundary pillars on the Afghan border between Dotoi and Laram, in accordance with instructions received from the Government of India. I joined this column the next day at Inzar Kach.

The incessant move of troops up all their valleys into their remotest villages was at last beginning to weary the Madda Khels, who were without lands, houses or resting-places, and on the 29th October five headmen of Termor, who had joined in the attack of 10th June, gave themselves up unconditionally in my camp at Inzar Kach, and these were followed on the 31st by Sadda Khan, the head of the tribe, and his brother Shadam and four *maliks* of Sheranni. Sadda Khan alone was promised that he would not be executed or transported. The arms and property looted at Maizar are being brought in daily, and will probably all be given up very shortly.

At the end of October some night firing into Sheranni took place, and in consequence parties of the 1st Sikhs lay up in Termor and surprised the raiders, killing two men, one of whom turned out to be Sadda Khan's cousin. This was the enemy's last attempt to molest us. On the 28th October Major Kemball, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General for Intelligence, accompanied by Lieutenant Pirrie, Survey Officer, and an escort of 30 sabres, two guns and 250 rifles, left Miram Shah to fill in the unsurveyed portion of the country north of that post and between Thal and the Tochi Valley. This column returned to Idak on the 8th November, having reached within five miles of Thal and thoroughly surveyed all the intervening country and the Baran Pass. On the 4th November Brigadier-General C. S. Brook assumed command of the 2nd Brigade, *vice* Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon'ble M. Curzon, invalided home.

On the 30th October the 3rd Battalion Rifle Brigade, which had been in this valley four months, left Bannu for India. This fine corps had been the victim of the epidemic of dysentery and enteric fever, and had lost three officers and 75 non-commissioned officers and men, besides a very large percentage of officers and men invalided or left behind in the field hospitals. I cannot bear too high testimony to the discipline which cheerfully endured and the pluck which combated the scourge during a long and trying season, and the battalion carried away with it the regrets of the whole force at the losses they had sustained. With the submission of the tribe, the military operations practically ended. The orders I had received have been carried out. The *kots* of Sheranni, Maizar and all the villages in those valleys have been destroyed. Dreplari (the original village which commenced the attack of the 10th June) has been levelled. The water-ways have been rendered temporarily useless, and some 20,000 maunds of *bhusa*, a considerable quantity of grain and many hundred cattle, sheep, etc., have been taken, and, lastly, crops sufficient to feed the main portion of the transport of the First Brigade for three months, have been cut or eaten up. It will be some years before the Madda Khels can recover from the damage done them. The losses by disease have, I regret to say, been very heavy, 3 British officers and over 100 British soldiers have died from sickness, besides 50 Native soldiers and many followers. Great numbers have been invalided or are still in hospital. The troops notwithstanding these trials have worked cheerfully and done their duty splendidly, and I thoroughly endorse the high opinion formed of them by the General Officers commanding brigades, and would here place on record my high appreciation of their discipline and soldierly qualities. The Medical Department has been exceptionally hard worked throughout the expedition, and my best thanks are due to all ranks of the profession. The Commissariat Transport has worked smoothly and without a hitch of any kind; the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of this Department, more especially those who have borne the burden and heat of the day along the Line of Communications, are deserving of commendation. The veterinary officers and subordinates have also worked admirably, and to them is, in large measure, due the excellent condition of the animals and the very small amount of sickness among them. The Intelligence Branch has reported on near 200 miles of routes, and gazetteered the whole country over which the force has operated. The Survey Department has completed an accurate survey over 920 square miles of country, and triangulation has been carried over 800 square miles. The other departments with the force, the Ordnance, Pay, &c., have been very satisfactory. By the "Scheme of Operations" the movements of the force were practically limited to the country south-west and west of Datta Khel: the operations have, however, in fact extended over all the country south of Datta Khel to the Mahsud border, which has of necessity been the limit in that direction. To the south, the west and northwards from Datta Khel columns have continuously been on the move, searching every valley and village up to the Afghan border. The boundary line has of course been the refuge which all have availed themselves of; being so invitingly close at hand, the tribesmen have time after time, after firing on our columns, recrossed into Afghan territory to wait a fresh opportunity. I learnt at the very beginning of the expedition (and this has since been confirmed by Sadda Khan) that when our troops advanced into the Tochi Valley, the Gar Madda Khels as a body took refuge in Afghan territory to the north-west of Charkhel, between boundary-pillars Nos. 3 and 8, and here they remained. Only a few raiders at a time came down to fire into our camps or occasionally water their fields by night. Recently, when the cold became very severe, they broke up and took refuge in Birmal, Jadran, Tanni and Khost, and this explains the impossibility of inflicting any serious injury on the tribe in the field; nevertheless their existence has been a precarious one, and they have been taught that the demands of Government must, in the end, be acceded to.

——: o :——

ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.

(By permission, dedicated to Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell-Hannay, commanding 1st Battalion A. and S. H.)

Air—"Kinloch of Kinloch."

Hurrah! for the men of Argyll and of Sutherland,
Bold hearts from the land of the strath and the ben;
United are they in their love of the mother-land,
For her, when she calls them, they quit them like men.

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Sons of Scotia, who never have crouched to invader,
Heirs to glory, dear bought, by illustrious dead,
'Gainst Roman and Saxon and fierce Viking raider.
For freedom they fought, and for freedom they bled
By roar of the ocean they lulled were in childhood.
In storm-beaten isle of the far Hebridees ;
Or in glen, by the blast as it shrieked through the wide wood.
Nor sapped was their manhood by indolent ease.
Is there need to recount deeds heroic, unnumbered ?
Their honours emblazoned the history tell ;
Oft their dead and their wounded Iberian Plains cumbered,
On Corunna's red field, and at Nive, and Nivelle.
O'er the hot sands of Ind have their banners been streaming,
Their war-pipe has sounded on Afric's karroos ;
And the Pyrenees saw their bright bayonets gleaming,
The Crimea, Roleia, Orthes, and Toulouse.
Then, hurrah ! for the men of Argyll and of Sutherland,
The land from the mountain, the glen, and the isle ;
They will conquer ; if need be, will die for their motherland—
The men of the North and the men of Argyll.

JOHN CAMPBELL.

—— : o : ——

Depot Notes at Howshera.

TO vary the monotony of our life here, Mr. Davies, our worthy Bandmaster, assisted by a few friends, got up two concerts which were held in the Sergeants' Mess, on the 8th and 12th January.

The success of these entertainments was all that could be wished for.

At the first concert, the sitting accommodation was rather limited, but in view of its success seats for one hundred were provided, and even with this large number several had to content themselves with standing room.

It would be invidious to make comparisons where all were good, but one cannot help congratulating Mr. Davies on his orchestra, especially the "oboe" player.

Private Brisland is one of the best comic singers that has ever been in the regiment, and he was encored times without number.

During the interval refreshments were supplied to the fair sex, this onerous duty being attended to by Sergeant Gunn.

The thanks of the members of the mess are due to Mr. Davies and his civilian friends, who so heartily came forward to assist in enlivening us.

The programmes of the concerts are given below.

* * * * * *

The order for the move of the Depôt brought joy to us all, anxious as we were to see our old comrades and friends, on return from the Tochi ; but when it was rumoured that a detachment was to be left here there was great speculation as to who were to be the unfortunates. The rumour proved too true, and Sergeants Gunn and Paton, with about 120 men, were detailed to remain behind for duty until relieved by the Depôt Yorkshire Regiment. No word has yet been received of their departure for this station, but "Oh, let it be soon !"

The station now is very dull, the strength of British troops out of hospital not exceeding 150 or 160.

The Depôt left here on the evening of the 25th January, Major Campbell being in command.

* * * * * *

The 11th Bengal Lancers will probably move to Jhelum shortly as the 10th Bengal Lancers, the relieving regiment, have a squadron in the station already.

* * * * * *

Colonel Fetherstonhaugh paid a visit to the Detachment on the 26th, leaving again on the 27th January.

1ST CONCERT.

1. *March* .. .. "Washington Post."
ORCHESTRA.
2. *Song and Chorus* ... ..My Old Kentucky Home."
Boy DELOUGHERY.
3. *Song* ... ... "The Death of Nelson."
Mr. DAVIES.
4. *Violin Solo* ... ...
Mr. HARMANS.
5. *Song* ... ..."Some Day."
Mr. BAND.
6. *Song (comic)* ... "The Village Blacksmith."
Private BRISLAND.
7. *Recitation* ... ."Hands v. Heads."
Private MCGARVIE.
8. *Song* ... ."Love's old Sweet Song."
Sergeant JEFFRIES.
9. *Cornet Solo* ... ...
Bandmaster MCLAUGHLIN.
10. *Song* ... "The Laddie that came tae woo me."
Private BURNS.
11. *Mandolin Solo* ... ...
Private WEBB.

INTERVAL.

12. *Song and Chorus* .. .. "Old Folks at Home."
13. *Song* ... ... "Drinking."
Mr. BAND.
14. *Banjo Solo* ... ...
Mr. OSBORN.
15. *Song* ... ... "My Dreams."
Mr. DAVIES.
16. *Violin Solo* ... ...
Mr. HARMANS.
17. *Song (comic)* .. ..
Private BRISLAND.
18. *Recitation* ... ... "The Doctor."
Private MCGARVIE.
19. *Song* ... ... "Thomas Atkins."
Sergeant JEFFRIES.
20. *Mandolin Solo* ... ...
Private WEBB.
21. *Song* ... ... "School Master."
Private BURNS.

THE QUEEN.

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2nd CONCERT.

1. *Overture* ... ... "Mary Morrison."
ORCHESTRA.
2. *Song and Chorus* ... "Massa's in the Cold Ground."
Mr. BAND.
3. *Cornet Solo* ... ... "Lizzie."
Bandmaster MCLAUGHLIN.
4. *Song* ... ... "The Irish Spree."
Boy DELOUGHERY.
5. *Mandolin Solo* ... ...
Private WEBB.
6. *Song* ... ... "The Powder Monkey."
C. S. DITCHAM.
7. *Song* ... ... "Oh, promise me!"
Mr. BAND.
8. *Recitation* ... ... "Scotch Words."
Private MCGARVIE.
9. *Song* ... ... "The Holy City."
Mr. DAVIES.
10. *Violin Solo* .. ..
Mr. HARMANS.
11. *Song* ... ... "My Sweetheart when a Boy."
Private BURNS.
12. *Recitation* (*comic*) ... ...
S. M. TENCH.
13. *Song* ... ... "Beautiful Isle of the Sea."
Mr. GOVER.

INTERVAL.

14. *Banjo Solo*... ... ...
Mr. OSBORN.
15. *Song* ... ...
Private CLARK.
16. *Song* ... ... "Only to see her Face again."
Mr. BAND.
17. *Song* (*comic*) ... "In our Backyard last Night."
Private BRISLAND.
18. *Cornet Solo* ... ... "The Lost Chord."
Bandmaster. MCLAUGHLIN.
19. *Song* ... ... "Ye Banks and Braes."
Sergeant JEFFRIES.
20. *Recitation* ... ... "Christmas Day."
Private MCGARVEY.
21. *Song* ... ... "Mona."
Mr. DAVIES.
22. *Violin Solo* ... ...
Mr. HARMANS.
23. *Song* ... ."My Sister."
Private BURNS.
24. *Mandolin Solo* .. ..
Private WEBB
25. *Song* ... ... "Father O'Flynn."
S. DITCHAM.
26. *Song* ... ... "Sweet Marie."
Private CLARKE.
27. *Song* ... ... { "Scots wha hae wi, Wallace bled."
Mr. GOVER.
28. *Song* (*comic*) ... ... "Last Election Day."
Private BRISLAND.

THE QUEEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE THIN RED LINE."

DEAR SIR,

You may have room in a corner of your paper for this report of the Drummers' pic-nic.

Being robbed of our annual New Year's dinner through active service on the Frontier (yes, we know all about that, Ed.), it was decided to celebrate our return and to recompense ourselves somewhat by having a pic-nic on the first Thursday in March, and Lance-Corporal McRae and drummers Hollands, Brown and Buchanan formed themselves into a committee of arrangement. A place called Nulgaul, about four and a half miles down the Shahjehanpur road, was selected and soon after seven o'clock on the morning of Thursday the committee preceded the main party by two or three hours and had everything ready for them on their arrival. The drive down was done in style, only open 1st class gharris being engaged, and although the day was cheerless and overcast the drive was most enjoyable and the music of Corporal Robb's pipes greatly enlivened the journey, Nulgaul being reached about 10-30 A. M.

A football match between teams selected by Drummer Lowe and Corporal Robb passed away the time until "tiffin;" the match resulting in a win for the former team by 3 goals to 1.

After the match came the "feed," the most important part of the business, for which the committee deserve the greatest praise, and then as a digestive throwing the cricket bal.; resulting in a tie betweer. Corporal Robb and Drummer McLachlan with Drummers Hollands and Buchanan close behind. Then followed revivers and the sing-song, the following being the programme:—

Song (comic) "Beef can close." Drummer HOLLANDS.
Song ... "My Sweetheart when a Boy." „ BURNS.
Song ... "Jessie's Dream" ... „ JACK.
Song ... "Ye Banks and Braes." BUCHANAN.
Song (comic) "For me" ... MCLACHLAN.
Song ... "Hella Loo." .. MUCHAN.
Song ... "Sweet Marie." Lance-Corporal LAWRIE.
Song (comic) "Camlachie." ... Drummer GIBBON.
Chinese Song "Me Bow-wow-wow." ... „ LOWE.
Song ... "The Match Boy." ... „ BURNS.
Song ... "Soldiers of the Queen." „ MCLACHLAN.
Pipe Solo "Flora MacDonald's Lament." Corporal ROBB.
Song ... "The Song that shall live for ever." Drumr. MALCOLM.
Song ... "Mary o' Argyll." ... Lce.-Corpl. MCRAE.
Song (comic) "The Laddie that cam tae woo me." Drummer BURNS.
Song ... "Sweet Genevieve „ JACK.
Pipe Solo... "Zochma" (Punjabi air) Corporal ROBB.
Song ... "Kathleen" ... Drummer MALCOLM.

A chorus all round closed the entertainment and all were in excellent spirits, driving back to barracks which were reached about retreat. And so ended one of the most enjoyable days the drummers have ever spent.

ONE OF THEM.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

That the guid news wisan awfu lang time comin.

That A, B and F had a gran time o' it among the snaw an' ice.

That some o' the headquarter folk wis a wee bit skeepticle o' the yarns told about the frost.

That "B" Company had a fairly guid time o' it at the sports at Datta Khel.

That it was love's labour lost wi a man.

That vinegar is no sae bad wi bully, but its a tora off for a eye-opener.

That yin o' "B" Company's sportsmen made what would hae bin a record sprint had any yin a stop-watch.

That discretion is certainly the better part of valour under some circumstances.

That its little nipper's gone.

That the possibility of Russia ever forcing the Khyber is more remote than ever.

That if you want to know why ask Joe Steele.

That there was very little time to prepare for the last General.

That it has had four Generals' Inspections since the New'Ear.

That the Sairgents hae been havin' a few guid nichts.

That the best man o' arms wis a wee fellow.

That ye cauna always go by appearances.

That the Sergeants' mess has produced a light weight champion.

That the "field deposits" soon evaporated.

That some special Abseentee Reports wis required for the first few weeks.

Regimental Gazette

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

To be Sergeant-Major—Quartermaster-Sergeant R. Lundie, from 25th July 1897.

To be Sergeants—

No. 2886. Lance-Sergeant W. Miller, "C" Company.

No. 3161, Lance-Sergeant Hanson, "D" Company; and No. 2571, Corporal J. Wash, "C" Company, and appointed Sergeant Drummer.

To paid Establishment of Lance-Sergeants—

No. 3894, Lance-Sergeant J. Durnan, "G" Company.
" 3692, Lance-Sergeant Stonor, "B" "

To be Corporals—

No. 3662, Lance-Corporal J. Harvey, "G" Company.
" 2479, " " D. Gordon, "D" "
" 4653, " " Fearn, "F" "
" 2571, " " J. Walsh, "G" "

To paid Establishment of Lance-Corporals—

No. 3704, Lance-Corporal J. Adcock, "B" Company.
" 4761, " " A. Bowe, "H" "
" 3553, " " A. Selley, "B" "
" 4397, " " Cody, "C" "
" 4780 " " Hope, "R" "
" 4097 " " Mitchell, "F" "

To be Lance-Corporal—

No. 3079, Pro. Lce.-Corpl. A. Wallace, "B" Company.
" 4803, " " " Fenton "G" "
" 4296 " " " Duff "D" "

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals—

No. 2809, Private T. Lyons, "E" Company.
" 6133, " J. Roberts, "G" "
" 3022, " W. Moat, "A" "
" 550, " R. Houston, "D" "
" 4108, " Blackmore, "E" Company, whilst on Regimental Police.
" 5115, Private Jamieson, "G" Company.
" 4987, " Gilmour, "G" "
" 5842, " R. Glass, "E" "
" 4574, " Martin, "H" " whilst in charge of Shoe-maker's shop.
" 4102, Private Marclew, "C" Company.
" 5558, " King, "C" "
" 4311, " Wight, "C" "
" 2810, Bandsman Willcox, "A" Company.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

Corporal D. Gordon, "D" to "A" Company.
" Robb, "G" to "A" "
" Ward, "G" to "C" "
" Fearn, "F" to "E" "
" Harvey, "G" to "H" "
Sergeant R. Miller, "E" to "G" "
" Jeffrey, "E" to "G" "

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 3809, Lance-Corporal G. Watson.
" 3844, Private Scott.
No. 3892, Private Marshall.
" 4196, " Little.

"B" Company.

No. 4319, Private Alcorn.
" 4539, " F. Bracey,
" 4806, " S. Brown.
" 3515, " R. Sutherland.
" 4846, Lance-Corporal W. Bracy.
" 4210, Private D. Stewart.
No. 4030, Private E. Lillywhite.
" 4296, " J. Kwing.
" 4265, " P. Martin.
" 4003, " J. Sutherland.
" 4330, " A. Kerr.
" 4097 " J. Full brook.

"C" Company.

No. 2768, Lance-Corporal W. McRae.

"D" Company.

No. 3822, Private T. Brown.
" 5294, " J. Stevenson.
" 3652, " McCymont.
No. 4344, Private J. Burns.
" 4290, Lance-Corporal Duff.
" 4287, Private Boyle.

"E" Company.

No. 4131, Private G. Stratford.
" 4016, " T. Mellon.
No. 3505, Private G. McKenzie.

"F" Company.

No. 3731, Private A. Shefford.

"G" Company.

No. 4156, Private C. Jenkins.
" 4240, " J. Isedale.
" 4197, " W. Burnard.
" 4364, " Laird.
No. 4220, Private F. Young.
" 4292 " R. Stirrratt.
" 6133, Lance-Corporal Roberts.

"H" Company.

No. 4251, Private H. Bovil.
" 4247, Drummer T. Carlyle.
" 4295, Private J. Keeble.
" 4244, Private J. Cathcart.
No. 4301, Lance-Corporal Gilbert.
" 4279, Private McMartin.
" 3719, " Newland.

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Restored 2d. per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3804, Private Gillies.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 3749, Drummer A. Hollands. | No. 2035 Private E. Chidley.
,, 2425, Private A. McInnes. |

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 3748, Private W. McLachlan. | No. 3383, Private Stewart.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 3641, Private C. Jones.

Granted 1*d. per diem* :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3930, Private McMaster. | No. 5048, Private Hamil.
,, 5595, ,, Johnstone. | ,, 5087 ,, M. Hunter.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 5007, Private E. McMenemy. | No. 4863, Private L. Rodgers.
,, 4962, ,, J. Henry. | ,, 5079, ,, D. McGilivray.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 4906, Private T. Craig.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4568, Private A. McGregor. | No. 4770, Private Collins.
,, 4615, ,, Nisbit. |

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 4949, Private E. Chalmers. | No. 5551, Private T. Montgomery.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 5095, Private L. O'Connor. | No. 5000, Private J. McKay.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 5531, Private J. Brown. | No. 5156, Private J. Jamiesan.
,, 5601, ,, D. Daniel. |

Restored 1*d. per diem* :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 5050, Private Britton. | No. 4105, Private Haynes.

No. 3818, Private Meiklehum.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4343, Piper J. McLean. | No. 4782, Private W. Lang.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 3492, Private A. Mills.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 3395, Private D. Elliott. | No. 3952, Private W. McLean.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 5718, Private D. McLean. | No. 4501, Private T. Duffin.
,, 4020, ,, D. McNiven. |

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 3713, Private J. Campbell.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4677, Private Gilmour. | No. 4389, Private McKay.
,, 3786, ,, Mayze. | ,, 4275, ,, Mills.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 4059, Private J. McNally. | No. 4334, Private D. Carr.
,, 4923, ,, McTaggart. | ,, 4665, ,, Frell.

To be Drummers—

No. 4980, Pte. Ferguson, "B" Company.
,, 4876, ,, Malcolm, "H" ,,
,, 5090, ,, Muchan, "H" ,,

To be Acting Drummers—

No. 2539, Pte. A. Lowe, "A" Company.
,, 6101, ,, Stephens, "H" ,,
,, 5042, ,, Gibbons, "B" ,,
,, 5844, ,, Burns, "H" ,,
,, 5511, ,, Jack, "C" ,,
,, 5585, ,, Brown, "C" ,,
,, 5696, ,, Harkness, "E" ,,

To be Pay Sergeant of "E" Company—No. 3116, Sergeant W. Weller.

To be Acting Quartermaster Sergeant—No. 1938, Color-Sergeant L. Robertson, "E" Company.

To be Pioneers—

No. 5456, Pte. Bell, "B" Company.
,, 6174, ,, Loudon, "F" ,,
,, 5912, ,, McKillop, "G" ,,
,, 6143, ,, Robinson, "H" ,,
,, 6125, ,, Patrick, "H" ,,
,, 5122, ,, Campbell, "D" ,,
,, 5673, ,, G. Lang, "D" ,,

To be Acting Bandsmen—

No. 5007, Pte. W. Reynolds, "B" Company.
,, 6087, ,, J. Kerr, "F" ,,
,, 5952, ,, J. Muir, "F" ,,

To be Bandsmen—

No. 4339, Pte. F. Bracey, "B" Company.
,, 5947, Boy Morrison, "C" ,,
,, 5201, ,, Kenyon, "C" ,,
,, 5758, ,, Parry, "E" ,,
,, 5653, ,, Edwardes, "B" ,,

To be Orderly Room Sergeant—No. 2760, Sergeant J. Gunn, "C" Company.

To be Piper—No. 4044, Pte. A. McDougall, "E" Company.

No. 5577, Boy Deloughery, "D" Company, attained the age of 18 years.

To be waiter in Officers' Mess—No. 4605, Pte. Walton, "E, Company.

To be barman in A. T. A.—No. 4013, Pte. J. Frankum, "F" Company.

To be Assistant Signalling Instructors—No. 1645, Sergeant J. Pringle and No. 3394, Lance-Sergeant J. Durnan.

To be Assistant Armourer—No. 4442, Pte. W. Rae, "F" Company.

To be Rest Camp Police—

No. 4301, Lce.-Corpl. Gilbert, "H" Company.
,, 5390, Pte. A. Stewart, "B" ,,
,, 4000, ,, McConnell, "A" ,,
,, 3969, ,, Cocker, "C" ,,
,, 4117, ,, Slater, "H" ,,
,, 4600, ,, A. Burke, "H" ,,
,, 4186, ,, J. Gillon, "F" ,,

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete 21 *years' service*—

No. 2735, Sergeant J. Tyndale, "E" Company.
,, 2458, Pte. E. Lillywhite, "B" ,,
,, 2296, ,, D. Baxter, "E" ,,
Sergeant Thos. McKenzie (Unattached List).
,, 2106, Pte. Ogden, "E" Company.
,, 3848, ,, McPherson, "A" ,,

To complete 12 *years with the Colours*—

No. 4044, Piper A. McDougall, "E" Company.
,, 5090, Pte. J. Muchan, "H" ,,
,, 4876, ,, W. Malcolm, "H" ,,
,, 4311, ,, A. Wight, "C" ,,

To be Gymnasium Instructors—

No. 959, Corporal J. Reid, "F" Company.
,, 3293, Lance-Corporal H. William, "B" Company.
,, 4094, ,, ,, Mitchell, "F" ,,

The following drafts from the Home Battalion have been posted to companies as follows :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 2539, Private A. Lowe. | No. 4726, Private W. Ballantyne.
,, 4514, ,, P. Park. | ,, 4955, ,, D. Hunter.
,, 5162, ,, M. Cannon. | ,, 5171, ,, J. Coutts.
,, 5180, ,, W. Cockburn. | ,, 5221, ,, J. Drain.
,, 5189, ,, H. Allan. | ,, 5199, ,, G. Dott.
,, 5211, ,, D. Quinn. | ,, 5828, ,, N. Oliphant.
,, 5009, ,, G. Rowley-Miller | ,, 5226, ,, W. Halliday.
,, 5357, ,, J. Stewart. | ,, 5360, ,, F. McGilvray.
,, 5734, ,, A. Gibson. |

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 5405, Private S. McDermott. | No. 5410, Private H. Bartholomew.
,, 5439, ,, C. Morrison. | ,, 5456, ,, R. Bell.
,, 5448, ,, T. Watt. | ,, 5470, ,, M. Sculley.
,, 5472, ,, J. Robertson. | ,, 5474, ,, J. Scott.
,, 5479, ,, D. Anderson. | ,, 5484, ,, G. Ure.
,, 5492, ,, W. High. | ,, 5493, ,, J. Hudgson.
,, 5498, ,, G. Taylor. | ,, 5499, ,, D. Gordon.
,, 5504, ,, G. Stevenson. | ,, 5506, ,, J. Burns.
,, 5507, ,, W. Reynolds. |

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 5516, Private G. Anderson. | No. 5511, Private A. Jack.
,, 5522, ,, J. Geddes. | ,, 5536, ,, J. Boyd.
,, 5543, ,, W. Hurry. | ,, 5538, ,, C. Forrester.
,, 5530, ,, J. Harley. | ,, 5548, ,, J. Macdonald.
,, 5553, ,, W. McKay. | ,, 5554, ,, W. Sharp.
,, 5558, ,, W. King. | ,, 5560, ,, J. Laird.
,, 5563, ,, J. Dott. | ,, 5562, ,, J. McNair.
,, 5569, ,, J. Sneddon. | ,, 5573, ,, J. Wright.
,, 5585, ,, T. Brown. |

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"*D*" *Company.*

No. 5593,	Private	A. Balfour.	No. 5587,	Private	W. Johnstone.
,, 5597,	,,	A. Kerr.	,, 5619,	,,	J. Bradley.
,, 5616,	,,	D. Dalrymple.	,, 5618,	,,	A. McMaster.
,, 5626,	,,	A. McKenzie.	,, 5629,	,,	R. Graham.
,, 5630,	,,	A. Lorimer.	,, 5632,	,,	M. Spelman.
,, 5650,	,,	J. Campbell.	,, 5665,	,,	M. O'Connell.
,, 5673,	,,	J. Lang.	,, 5672,	,,	F. Kilpatrick.
,, 5678,	,,	J. Marshall.	,, 5681,	,,	J. Monteith.
,, 5683,	,,	A. Cairns.			

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 1095,	Sergeant	J. Robertson.	No. 5693,	Private	J. Johnston.
,, 5690,	Private	P. Brisland.	,, 5696,	,,	C. Harkness.
,, 5784,	,,	W. Chapman.	,, 5706,	,,	G. Gemmel.
,, 5707,	,,	B. Gordon.	,, 5708,	,,	J. Turney.
,, 5713,	,,	J. Doig.	,, 5711,	,,	D. Anderson.
,, 5725,	,,	W. Brown.	,, 5724,	,,	J. Lamb.
,, 5728,	,,	R. Anderson.	,, 5729,	,,	G. Barnett.
,, 5740,	,,	T. Engleby.	,, 5732,	,,	C. Ross.
,, 5738,	,,	J. Lennan.			

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 1438,	Corp.-Sergt.	H. Ditcham.	No. 5762,	Private	J. McEachern.
,, 5750,	Private	Raphils.	,, 5766,	,,	J. Mullen.
,, 5752,	,,	J. Sutherland.	,, 5769,	,,	W. Collins.
,, 5770,	,,	W. Cullen.	,, 5777,	,,	J. Brown.
,, 5774,	,,	D. Allan.	,, 5801,	,,	J. Jones.
,, 5795,	,,	T. McGowan.	,, 5833,	,,	J. Gallacher.
,, 5807,	,,	C. Nevill.	,, 5837,	,,	W. Lawrence.
,, 5841,	,,	J. Brown.	,, 5827,	,,	J. Clarke.
,, 5844,	,,	J. Burns.			

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 5828,	Private	D. Sinclair.	No. 5851,	Private	J. Roberts.
,, 5861,	,,	A. Harvey.	,, 5852,	,,	G. Sewell.
,, 5868,	,,	J. Gilmour.	,, 5866,	,,	W. Wilson.
,, 5870,	,,	T. Pullar.	,, 5874,	,,	A. Thomson.
,, 5853,	,,	J. Brown.	,, 5855,	,,	W. Brodie.
,, 5856,	,,	F. Andrews.	,, 5885,	,,	W. Morrison.
,, 5906,	,,	D. Fyffe.	,, 5897,	,,	McGougan.
,, 5898,	,,	A. Dickson.	,, 5908,	,,	McKenzie.
,, 5923,	,,	A. Brown.			

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 5926,	Private	R. McKenzie.	No. 5931,	Private	G. Wilson.
,, 5943,	,,	D. Halley.	,, 5945,	,,	A. McCrae.
,, 5949,	,,	J. McGilvray.	,, 5975,	,,	J. Brady.
,, 5958,	,,	J. McLennan.	,, 5959,	,,	D. Cattenach.
,, 5987,	,,	W. Ferguson.	,, 5993,	,,	G. Sherman.
,, 6000,	,,	R. Ellar.	,, 6008,	,,	A. Lyon.
,, 6020,	,,	J. McMahon.	,, 6024,	,,	W. Wallace.
,, 6101,	,,	W. Stevens.	,, 6063,	,,	H. Munro.
,, 5974,	,,	McMenemay.			

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3865,	Sergeant	Campbell.	No. 6098,	Private	Young.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 5201,	Boy	Kenyon.	No. 5947,	Boy	Morrison.
,, 5645,	Private	Bracken.	,, 5745,	Private	Burns.
,, 6032,	,,	Youngson.			

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 5971,	Private	Brooks.	No. 5638,	Private	Clark.
,, 6168,	,,	Comrie.			

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 6047,	Private	Gannon.	No. 5753,	Private	Gibson.
,, 5842,	,,	Glass.	,, 5359	,,	Glen.
,, 5814,	,,	Gray.			

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 5161,	Corp.	Gordon Cumming.	No. 5077,	Private	Mullen.
,, 6028,	Private	Hamilton.	,, 5634,	,,	Haining.
,, 6015,	,,	Harper.	,, 5789,	,,	Hearn
,, 5939,	,,	Ingram.	,, 6122,	,,	Jack.
,, 6201,	,,	Jamieson.	,, 6158,	,,	Johnston.
,, 6080,	,,	Kerr.	,, 6087,	,,	Kerr.
,, 6174,	,,	Loudon.	,, 6200,	,,	Lumsden.
,, 5946,	,,	Maywood.	,, 6068,	,,	Milne.
,, 5966,	,,	Moir.	,, 5952,	,,	Muir.
,, 6120,	,,	Munro.	,, 6144,	,,	Munro.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4573,	Private	Murphy.	No. 6105,	Private	McArthur.
,, 6069,	,,	McCale.	,, 6160,	,,	McCarthy.
,, 6145,	,,	McDonald.	,, 5612,	,,	McCulloch.
,, 5993,	,,	McCulloch.	,, 5607,	,,	McDonald.
,, 6189,	,,	McGregor.	,, 6027,	,,	McKendrick.
,, 5912,	,,	McKillon.	,, 6163,	,,	McKinley.
,, 5589,	,,	McLaren.	,, 5953,	,,	McMillan.
,, 6004,	,,	Mullholland.			

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 6139,	Private	Patterson.	No. 6078,	Private	Peacock.
,, 6125,	,,	Patrick.	,, 6035,	,,	Richardson.
,, 6369,	,,	Robertson.	,, 6143,	,,	Robinson.
,, 5728,	,,	Sibbald.	,, 6124,	,,	Silcock.
,, 6191,	,,	Smith.	,, 6167,	,,	Simpson.
,, 5869,	,,	Stuart.	,, 5969,	,,	Thomson.
,, 6058,	,,	Wilson.	,, 6104,	,,	Wilson.
,, 6057,	,,	Willie.			

DEATHS.

TIPPING.—At Miranshah, on the 3rd December 1897, No. 3436, Private Tipping, "C" Company, of remittent fever.

MCDONALD.—At Bannu, on the 4th December 1897, No. 4124, Private McDonald, "C" Company, of dysentery.

MCEWAN.—At Kohat, on the 19th November 1897, No. 4843, Private McEwan, "D" Company, of enteric fever.

KEATONS.—At Bannu, on the 4th December 1897, No. 4250, Private W. Keatons, "A" Company, of bronchitis.

KELLY.—At Bannu, on the 5th December 1897, No. 5032, Private J. Kelly, "F" Company, of enteric fever.

DENNEY.—At Kohat, on the 13th December 1897, No. 4636, Private E. Denney, "E" Company, of remittent fever.

INGLIS.—At Boya, on the 23rd December 1897, No. 2794, Lance-Sergeant G. Inglis, "G" Company.

FRASER.—At Miranshah, on the 25th December 1897, No. 5434, Private Fraser, "B" Company, of enteric fever.

GREY.—At Nowshera, on the 26th November 1897, No. 3464, Private Grey, "E" Company.

FILES.—At Rawalpindi, on the 6th December 1897, No. 4367, Private Files, "B" Company.

BUCHAN.—At Rawalpindi, on the 15th December 1897, No. 4588, Private Buchan, "E" Company.

O'NEILL.—At Rawalpindi, on the 27th December 1897, No. 5131, Private W. O'Neill, "F" Company.

BIRTHS.

GREEN.—At Cherat, on the 23rd July 1897, the wife of Sergeant J. Green of twins—Arthur Victor and Marjorie Mary.

HOLDEN.—At Cherat, on the 25th August 1897, the wife of Armourer-Sergeant W. Holden of a daughter, Ivy.

MILLER.—At Cherat on the 25th August 1897, the wife of Corporal A. Miller of a daughter, Jessie Kate.

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June 1898

SUTHERLAND · HIGHLANDERS
93

The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 2—Vol. IV. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—JUNE 1898. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

HEAD-QUARTERS and the right wing left Bareilly on the 4th ultimo, training to Kathgodam *en route* for Chaubattia. Only three companies—"A," "C" and "D"—left on this date, "B" Company with nearly 100 details leaving on the following morning. After leaving Kathgodam it was some fifty odd miles to our summer station, divided into five marches, the halting places being Ranibagh (the rest-camp for Kathgodam, about two miles from the railway station), Jeolikot (better known as the Brewery camp, Naini Tal), Bhaiwali, Ratighat and Bamshoan. The march up to summer quarters was quite uneventful, though rather a novelty, as it is 1895 since the battalion last marched to the hills, and since then there have been many drafts from the home battalion. As could only be expected, some difficulty was experienced with the baggage—the "*oont*" is not always amenable to reason, being more or less of an independent turn of mind, and the few antiquated bullock carts supplied locally were, if sure, remarkably slow, one mile an hour on a hill road being almost "scorching" to the peaceful *byle*.

* * * * * *

The battalion reached Chaubattia on Saturday, 9th, after a stiff three-mile climb up a short cut known as the "corkscrew road," which tested the climbing powers of the men not a little. The top of the hill was reached about 9 o'clock, and Chaubattia was discovered in an oak forest straggling along the top of the ridge in a most picturesque manner, no two buildings being on the one level nor built at the same angle. The companies were soon told off to quarters, each company being allotted three or four bungalows. "B" Company arrived on the following day, the details, including a few of our own invalids from the left half battalion, going on to Ranikhet, which is about four miles distant from Chaubattia and several hundred feet lower. Seen from a distance it appears

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to be a large and populous cantonment, for the hills. The 59th Lilywhites, or 2nd East Lancashire Regiment, lately from Aldershot, are at Ranikhet, and as they left home with a great football reputation, we may expect some good matches when our own team has been shaken into condition a bit from the effects of campaigning. Several of our likely players are at present on the plains, but no doubt when all have settled down some arrangement may be made to get the regimental team together again and to train systematically. There are several football trophies in this part of India that are worth competing for.

* * * * * *

Up to the present Chaubattia does not seem to promise much in the way of sport. There is only one level piece of ground in the place, in about the centre of the cantonment, if Chaubattia can be dignified by that name, and that, of course, is the parade-ground, which just admits of the four companies being opened out for physical drill on it, and that's about all. It might be large enough for a football match, but it would be advisable to have several spare balls in readiness in case of emergency, whilst a game of cricket would be almost out of the question. Polo has been suggested, but no one as yet has had the hardihood to do more than knock a ball about.

Khud-climbing should become popular, as it is about the only amusement at present that seems possible; but even this is robbed of half its charm, for it is impossible to buy a khud stick, and khud-climbing without a khud stick is something like the play of Hamlet *minus* the Prince of Denmark, or, to be original and up to date, Dargai without the Gordon Highlanders. If Chaubattia is anything like our other Himalayan stations, "fly-dodging," as the summer advances, may become a favourite pastime; but up to the present nothing in the shape of a butterfly has made its appearance, though moths are fairly plentiful. From moths and butterflies to the more minute creations of the insect world is not such a digression, and in this respect Chaubattia can certainly hold its own. Those little reddy-brown creatures, that seem indigenous to wooden structures, after an enforced idleness of several months, during which time they have no doubt been lying dormant in the cracks and crevices of the bungalows and bed boards, have now risen like giants refreshed from their inactivity, and have welcomed the advent of spring and our arrival with tactics and an activity that should bring a blush to the cheek of the most energetic of Zakka Khels in a rear-guard action. Time and patience, assisted by the application of a strong disinfectant, may, no doubt, eventually have the same effect upon these pests that it would have upon a border tribe, but at present the inconvenience is almost as great as being "sniped" by an active and invisible enemy, and forcible language is but a poor substitute for star-shells.

* * * * * *

We have just received a most interesting communication from one of our furlough hands in the person of Sergeant Smith, from which it appears that most of our details went home on board the hired transport *Nubia*, sailing from Bombay on the 7th March. The stay at Deolali previous to embarking does not appear to have been very enjoyable, rations, and, worst of all, "drinks," being very bad; but once on board-ship there was a great improvement, and the voyage home proved a most enjoyable one, the weather being almost all that could be desired, except during the last few days, when a stiff head-wind was met. There were two concerts during the voyage and the usual sports, in which Private Cooke of "D" Company managed three firsts—the sack race, the obstacle race and, with Private Sinclair, "H" Company, the wheelbarrow race. Also a team composed of Corporal Potter and Privates Sweeney, Glossop, Sinclair and King of ours, with four Gordon Highlanders and one Royal Irish Rifleman, known as "No. 4, Gosport Section," won the tug-of-war, pulling over a heavy team of Royal Artillery furloughs.

The *Nubia* carried 43 officers, 7 warrant officers and 1,103 non-commissioned officers and men, with 51 women and 106 children, and the pleasure of the voyage home was only marred by three deaths.

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Sergeant Smith at Belfast called upon an old "thin red line" hero, of whom we make note in another column, and had a most interesting talk with the old fellow, who was delighted to see one of his old corps.

* * * * * *

Whilst on the subject of "Homeward Bound," we may mention that the latest illustrated papers to hand contain photos. of the disembarking at Gosport of wounded and others from the Indian frontier campaigns in which the 93rd are much in evidence, and several faces can be easily recognised.

* * * * * *

Hockey seems to be "taking on" somewhat at present in the regiment, though results are not encouraging: it is well there is something, for football seems almost to have been extinguished, except as far as the desultory kicking of an occasional ball; but the votaries of the new game have not had much experience, and in both matches we have met with most ignominious reverses.

The first game was at Ranikhet against the station, the result being 7 goals to 1, and the return game at Chaubattia, which was restricted to the East Lancashire Regiment only to, if possible, try and equalise, resulted in a still more crushing defeat by 8 goals to 1. A little more practice and a better knowledge of the game may make a difference, however, and we hope for the best.

* * * * * *

The Derbyshire Regiment is back from Peshawar, and so the left wing is now at Shahjehanpur for the summer. Our re-union again will probably be at Bareilly next November for the drill season, where we may go under canvas on the *maidan*, where we encamped for the few days after coming back from the Tochi in February last. The East Lancashire Regiment will probably be our neighbours there also, as the Ranikhet regiment usually winters at Bareilly, and there will be another battalion in relief of the Derbyshires, who go to Aden next trooping season. If the winter rains are not heavy—tents at Bareilly have a nasty habit of collapsing when it is wet owing to the pegs slipping in the sandy soil—next winter at Bareilly should be a very busy and enjoyable one, but it is a long time to look forward too, and we have the summer here in the hills to enjoy yet, and the monsoon rains to introduce to the last half dozen drafts or so. This is an experience in itself that more than half the wing have not yet any idea of, and it may even prove a novelty in its way to the more experienced, as the monsoons of our previous hill stations are, we hear, mere child's play to the deluge that may be expected in this part of the Himalayas. We have already had a few heavy thunderstorms, but they have merely cooled the atmosphere and reduced the temperature—somewhat an advantage, as Chaubattia has seemed rather warm for a hill station.

* * * * * *

The Tochi does not appear to be quite so quiet at the present time as it was during the latter part of our stay there, and Datta Khel has been sniped on several occasions lately. Quite recently an attack was made upon the mule lines, and a sentry of the 33rd Punjab Infantry was killed and two others injured.

* * * * * *

A party of recruits, mostly young officers, have just concluded Table A of their Musketry Course with capital results. The Chaubattia range is an excellent one for a hill station, and Sergeant MacDonald soon after our arrival had everything in working order and the range ready for target practice. The firing points are arranged in a semi-circle round the east side of Chaubattia hill, necessitating the targets being placed obliquely for the longer distances, but this causes no inconvenience, and the firing points are nearly all within a stone's throw of the parade-ground and almost at the very doors of some of the bungalows.

* * * * * *

Private Mossman, "B" Company, won the half-mile easily against eleven competitors on the Ranikhet Polo ground, on Friday, 13th May. He

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was our only entry in this race and won without an effort. One of the East Lancashire representatives secured second place. There were several other events during the afternoon ; Sergeant Johnstone getting second in a steeplechase for *bonâ fide* bazar tats, though the winner was rather a doubtful case, and a remarkably well-conditioned animal compared with the usual bazar species.

Captain Aitken also won a race, and the Lloyd-Lindsay team should have won easily, only the bottles wouldn't break.

There were several monsoon showers during the afternoon which rather spoiled the gymkhana, but the monsoons are blowing up and it is the penalty one has to pay for being away from the punkhas.

* * * * * *

On the evening of the same date there was a most excellent concert in the Sergeants' Mess at Chaubattia, Major Campbell and all the officers being present. There were no visitors from Ranikhet, either from the East Lancashire Regiment or from the standing camp, the distance, no doubt, being accountable for this ; but the little Mess-room was quite full enough as it was and a most enjoyable evening was spent. It was well into the sma' hours and long after the concert before the more important part of the entertainment (refreshments were in the small detached Billiard-room) concluded and each had proceeded on his dangerous homeward journey.

* * * * * *

There was a good field day at Ranikhet on the 17th for the edification of the Lieutenant-General Commanding Bengal, the attacking force, of which we formed part, rendezvousing at the Polo ground. The general idea was that a force, A, composed of two companies Derbyshire Regiment and two companies East Lancashire Regiment, was the rear-guard of a force retiring on Thibet *viâ* Almora, and force B, six companies of the East Lancashires and ourselves in two columns, was the advanced guard of an enemy following up the retirement of force A. Major Campbell was in command of force B with 2nd-Lieutenant Howell as galloper, Captain Aitken being in command of the wing.

The 8 o'clock signal gun fired from Ranikhet as the battalion fell in, and the four miles march to the rendezvous was accomplished in good time, and we were first on the ground. Arms were piled, and the force B fell out for a short time until the arrival of Sir Baker Russell, when we fell in for inspection. Sir Baker Russell rode round the ranks of each company and remarked the bronzed appearance of the men, and seemed well pleased with the turn-out of the wing.

The force moved off to the attack soon after 10 o'clock, the East Lancashires leading, and ours followed in column of route. The Lancashires soon got in touch with the enemy beyond the standing camp, and we moved forward on the left to guard that flank. After about two miles, our companies got extended in the pine-covered slopes, and it became very slippery going. The "Cease fire" sounded just before 1 o'clock, as the enemy took up their final position round the race-course, where our cooks had preceded us and had dinner ready. During the latter part of the attack we had quite outstripped the East Lancashire Regiment, who were somewhat slow on the right, and there were only kilts in the final rushes, which was commented upon afterwards by the General Officer Commanding.

An hour or so's rest and then the march back to Chaubattia, which with the long and steep climb was certainly the worst part of the day's proceedings, and it was nearly five before the top of the hill was reached.

* * * * * *

Sir Baker Russell inspected our quarters on the following day, the usual ceremonial parade being dispensed with. Everything went off smoothly, and the General Officer Commanding seemed well pleased with everything.

* * * * * *

"A" Company have finished firing, and Sergeant Hay is company shot, with an excellent score of 143. There are altogether thirty marksmen, and the company average is 88.

* * * * * *

We are without any music at the present, the band and pipers having gone to Naini Tal for the "Week" there, and it will probably be June

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before they return. Meanwhile the bugle sounds "Mess" and "Dinner" calls, and we feel at the depot once more.

* * * * * *

The usual *feu de joie* was fired on Monday, 24th May, and the Queen's Birthday celebrated in addition by the issue of liquid refreshment from the Canteen funds in which to drink Her Majesty's health. The parade was in the early morning, and the remainder of the day was observed as a holiday.

* * * * * *

There is rather a prevalence of fever among the wing at the present time, owing, no doubt, to the early arrival of the rains, and there is a daily issue of quinine, the orderly-sergeants in addition to their multitudinous duties combining the additional one of assistant surgeon.

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The latest news to hand is that *batta* on the same scale as that granted to the forces employed in the Chitral Campaign will be given to the troops who have been on the frontier during the late disturbances.

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We have very little news of the left wing at Shahjehanpur. Three companies, "H," "F" and "G," have finished firing their Annual Course there, Lance-Sergeant Clarke, Sergeant Soutar and Corporal Ogg being respectively company shots. There have also been a couple of shooting matches, the first between "E" and "F" Companies and the other between teams from "E" and "F," and "G" and "H," the scores of which are given on another page. Shahjehanpur is, we hear, a very pleasant summer station, for, although hot, the temperature in no way approaches that experienced either at Nowshera or Mian Mir. About one hundred men, belonging principally to the last two drafts, leave Shahjehanpur on the 4th June for the standing camp here at Ranikhet, and will, no doubt, be settled down in their new quarters by the time this paper is published.

* * * * * *

Captain Cameron has returned from the Tirah force, and Sergeant R. Miller and our signallers are also back.

The signallers during the time they were away were attached to the King's Own Scottish Borderers, and got as far up as the advanced camp of the 3rd Brigade at Mimani. Although they were almost nightly subject to "sniping," there were no casualties.

In last month's news we omitted the name of Private Johnson as one of our signallers with the Tirah force. Private Cooke's name was mentioned instead, although he was *en route* to Gosport.

* * * * * *

At the present time the "helio" is at work daily in communication with Ranikhet, but there are only half a dozen signallers here at Chaubattia Sergeants Pringle and Durnan being busy with classes of instruction at Shahjehanpur.

* * * * * *

Since our last number, Sergeant Duncan of ours, employed on the Public Works Department at Quetta, has passed in Pushtu by the higher standard.

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There cannot now be many remaining who formed up with the regiment at Balaclava on the 25th October 1854. An old "thin red line" hero writing a few weeks' back mentioned the death of no less than four veterans who have departed this life quite recently, and there are not unlikely many more who have joined the great majority during the past winter.

Three of the deceased were present at the last Balaclava Dinner at Glasgow—Donald Cameron, whose death we mentioned in our last number and who was immortalised in Roberts Gibbs' famous picture of "The Thin Red Line," Finlay McPherson, who joined the regiment in 1851, and William Thomson, who claimed a free discharge after nineteen years' service.

The other was Thomas McDougall, who was a Bandsman and was present at the Duke of Wellington's funeral in 1852 and died on the 10th February last at the age of 65.

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This account of Finlay McPherson's career we take from a Glasgow paper:—

Finlay McPherson died in the Royal Infirmary on Saturday after a short illness. A native of Inverness-shire, deceased in early life joined the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, and embarked with the regiment for the Crimea. He was present at the Battle of Alma, 20th September, 1854; also at Yanakle, Kertch and the Siege of Sebastopol. He was one of the few survivors of the "Thin Red Line" who, under Sir Colin Campbell, withstood the Russian charge at Balaclava. He received the medal with three clasps. McPherson served throughout the Indian Mutiny, 1857-58, marched with Sir Colin in the Relief of Lucknow, was present at the Battle of Cawnpore, at Shumshabad, at the Siege and Capture of Lucknow, Fort Roya, Bareilly, &c. He received the medal with two clasps, and also had the medal for long service and good conduct. Twenty years ago McPherson entered the employment of Messrs. David Kemp & Son, Glasgow, who highly valued the services of the old soldier.

* * * * * *

As mentioned in our last, a subscription has been started in the regiment to erect some memorials of those of our comrades who died in the Tochi Valley or from illness contracted while serving there. It is proposed to put up a small iron cross over such graves as are near a permanent military post where there is a reasonable chance of their being preserved. It was not considered possible to mark in any way the graves of those who are buried at Sheranni, Gumbat or Latammar, as there are no troops there. The surplus of the subscriptions after the crosses are paid for is proposed to be expended in erecting a stone in the churchyard at Stirling or in placing a brass tablet in the West Church at that place. The Editor will be glad of suggestions.

The following subscriptions have been received to date:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Officers.	180	0	0
"A" Company	69	8	0
"B" "	22	0	0
"C" "	59	0	0
"D" "	49	6	0
"E" "	32	8	0
"F" "	69	8	0
"G" "	25	0	0
"H" "	59	0	0
Total ...	565	14	0

The estimated cost of the crosses, which are made of iron and should therefore be practically indestructible, is Rs. 350, but the cost of carriage from Rurki, where they are being made, and of fixing them in position, will have to be added.

Crosses for the following have already been ordered:—

No. 2704,	Lce.-Sergt.	G. Inglis,	died	23-12-97,	buried at	DattaKhel.
,, 3490,	Private	G. Broom,	,,	1-9-97,	,,	Miran Shah.
,, 4037,	,,	F. Smith,	,,	9-9-97,	,,	,,
,, 5160,	,,	R. Wilson,	,,	14-9-97,	,,	,,
,, 4501,	Piper	T. McKenzie,	,,	16-9-97,	,,	,,
,, 4370,	Private	D. McGee,	,,	30-9-97,	,,	,,
,, 5046,	,,	G. Hunter,	,,	4-10-97,	,,	,,
,, 4340,	,,	J. Mackenzie,	,,	8-10-97,	,,	,,
,, 2974,	Corporal	D. Shaw,	,,	20-10-97,	,,	,,
,, 5295,	Lce.-Cpl.	R. Peasley,	,,	22-10-97,	,,	,,
,, 4661,	Private	G. Russell,	,,	31-10-97,	,,	,,
,, 5434,	,,	J. Fraser,	,,	25-12-97,	,,	,,
,, 3436,	,,	C. Tipping,	,,	4-12-97,	,,	,,

It is proposed to place similar memorials on the graves of—

No. 713,	Sgt.-Maj.	A. McDonald,	died	9-7-97,	buried at	Saidgai.
,, 3734,	Private	A. Cameron,	,,	9-7-97,	,,	,,
,, 5053,	,,	J. Martin,	,,	10-8-97,	,,	Datta Khel.
,, 4318,	,,	J. McAllister,	,,	16-9-97,	,,	,,
,, 2534,	,,	C. Gollan,	,,	17-9-97,	,,	,,
,, 4103,	Lce.-Cpl.	A. Dipper,	,,	30-9-97,	,,	,,
,, 4844,	Private	P. McCormack,	,,	30-9-97,	,,	,,
,, 4866,	,,	R. Sinclair,	,,	15-10-97,	,,	Pannu.
,, 5655,	,,	T. Young,	,,	26-10-97,	,,	Datta Khel.
,, 4243,	,,	W. Hamilton,	,,	13-11-97,	,,	Rawalpindi.
,, 3891,	,,	W. Regan,	,,	25-10-97,	,,	Bannu.
,, 5269,	,,	P. Smith,	,,	18-11-97,	,,	Rawalpindi.
,, 4818,	,,	J. McEwan,	,,	19-11-97,	,,	Kohat.
,, 3464,	,,	G. Grey,	,,	26-11-97,	,,	Nowshera.
,, 3937,	,,	J. Fatterson,	,,	17-11-97,	,,	Bannu.
,, 4250,	,,	W. Keattons,	,,	4-12-97,	,,	,,
,, 4124,	,,	J. McDonald,	,,	4-12-97,	,,	,,
,, 5032,	,,	S. Kelley,	,,	6-12-97,	,,	,,
,, 4367,	,,	C. Files,	,,	11-12-97,	,,	Rawalpindi.
,, 4636,	,,	A. Denny,	,,	13-12-97,	,,	Kohat.
,, 4588,	,,	G. Buchan,	,,	15-12-97,	,,	Rawalpindi.
,, 5131,	,,	W. J. G. O'Neil,	,,	27-12-97,	,,	,,

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Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh has gone to Kashmir on ninety days' privilege leave.

* * * * * *

We know that Government propose to give a sum in compensation for wear and tear of clothing in the recent Frontier troubles; we believe they will give "field service allowances"; and we hope they will give us "batta"—all of which things cause us to regret that we haven't got the contract for beer.

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The married quarters will have to be enlarged soon. There have been two pairs of twins taken on the strength within the last few months.

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Our old friends the 79th are again in Egypt, and, as usual, have much distinguished themselves, unfortunately not without loss.

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We are glad to note the promotion of Lieutenant Gunn, Royal Scots, to his Company. Captain Gunn was Colour-Sergeant of "H" Company in the 1st Battalion, after years in this, when he got his Commission as 2nd-Lieutenant. There are three officers now serving who have

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had remarkably quick promotion since they got their commissions through the ranks of this regiment, *viz.*, Captain Playfair, Hampshire Regiment, Station Staff Officer at Dalhousie—First Commission, 20th May 1885, Captain, 20th December 1890; Captain Green, Adjutant, 2nd Derbyshire Regiment—First Commission, 16th May 1888, Captain, 1st January 1894; Captain Gunn, Royal Scots—First Commission, 12th, April 1893, Captain, 2nd April 1898.

The average service of our Captains on promotion is rather over nine years.

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Captain Darroch joined at Bareilly on 19th March on exchange with Captain Wolrige-Gordon.

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Captain Robinson has gone Home on leave, and Lieutenants Campbell and A. H. Maclean follow shortly.

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Lieutenant Hyslop and Sergeant Blair have gone to Pachmarhi for the 1st class at the School of Musketry.

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Lieutenant Tweedie has gone home to the depôt for two years. At present it looks as if he would be promoted before his tour of duty expires.

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2nd-Lieutenant Harvey has passed in subjects (*a*) and (*b*) for promotion. He has also broken his collar-bone.

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Major Campbell has been appointed second in command of the battalion.

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Captain McNeill has been shooting in the Central Provinces and has already bagged one tiger.

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The services of the undermentioned non-commissioned officers of the battalion have been considered worthy of commendation during the recent disturbances on the frontier :—

Sergeant Smith.
„ Murdoch.
Lance-Corporal J. Lee.
„ R. Wright.

Corporal Chapman's name was mentioned in the Tochi despatches.

* * * * * *

Brigadier-General Egerton, C.B., D. S. O., A. D.-C., has accepted the invitation of the officers to consider himself a permanent Honorory Member of the Mess, and has presented a photograph of himself to be hung up in the Mess. The photograph is now at Shahjehanpur and we have not seen it, but have heard that it is an excellent likeness of our late Brigadier in the uniform of an Aide-de-Camp to the Queen.

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Lieutenant McCandlish has been in hospital at Shahjehanpur with enteric fever, but luckily it was only a very mild case.

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We have to congratulate Captain Mackenzie on his engagement. The wedding takes place, we believe, in August or September, and Lieutenant Johnston-Stewart is to be best man.

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Lieutenant Newall has been appointed Adjutant of the Standing Camp at Ranikhet for the present hot weather.

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Football has been looking up the last week or so, and there have been one or two exciting matches lately, notably one between "B" and "C" Companies, resulting in a win for the former by 5 goals to 2; but this favourite sport does not seem to flourish as it did at one time. Certainly there are not many old players at present in the regiment, but there is plenty of new blood, and talent should not be lacking. Some of the company teams seem as good as ever, and one or two of the Subalterns are keen foot-ballers and turn out with their company elevens—a healthy form of encouragement. There have been one or two matches with teams from the depôt and standing camp at Ranikhet, when "A" Company have figured as the Chaubattia champions. The drill ground on which all the matches here are played is just about big enough for a football ground, but there is an awkward khud on the east side of the ground over which balls seem to have a partiality for rolling. A wattle hedge, which could be put up at a very small cost, would soon overcome this inconvenience, however, and is, we believe, to be erected.

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A BELFAST BALACLAVA HERO.

(FROM THE "BELFAST HERALD.")

Yesterday there celebrated his seventieth birthday in Belfast Peter M'Kay, one who as a Private has borne a part in many a hard-fought battle, who at Balaclava formed one of the celebrated "thin red line," and who, among other notable engagements, was present at the relief of Lucknow. Ah, that name, the mention of which should thrill the heart of every Briton, is a misnomer to him; he is far from luck-now. . . . . .

The graphic account of his career is disclosed in the following paper obtained by him from Lieutenant-General F. Traill Burroughs, under whose command the veteran served. The paper is dated "Rousay, Orkney, N. B., 10th October, 1896," and runs :—

"I hereby certify that No. 3180, Private Peter M'Kay, served under my command for some seventeen years, in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders. For about half of this time he was a soldier in the company I commanded as a captain, and for about the other half I was in command of the regiment. He joined the head-quarters of the regiment in July, 1854, at Varna, in Bulgaria, and accompanied it to Alydyn and back to Varna, when cholera was raging. He accompanied the regiment to the Crimea, and landed at Upataria on the 11th September, 1854. He was present at the battle of the Alma, on the 20th September 1854; at the battle of Balaclava, on the 25th October 1854, on which occasion he was one of 'the thin red line.' He was present at the capture of Kutch and Yenikaleh, and he served in the trenches at the siege of Sebastopol, and was present at the last two assaults and the capture of that strongly fortified town. As a volunteer, he was one of the first to enter Redan on the morning of its fall, and received the French war medal in recognition of his bravery. He was also awarded the Turkish medal and the Crimean medal, with clasps, for Alma, Balaclava, and Sebastopol. He returned to England with the 93rd after the Crimean campaign, but a few months afterwards he was ordered off with his regiment to take part in a war raging in China. The regiment was intercepted on its voyage at the Cape of Good Hope, and was ordered to proceed with all haste to Calcutta to take part in the suppression of the mutiny of the native army and the reconquest of India, under Lord Clyde. Private Peter M'Kay was present at General Clyde's relief of Lucknow, at the storming of the Sekundrabagh, and of the Shah Nujeef. He was also present at the battle of Cawnpore on the 6th December, 1857, and at the pursuit of the enemy all night after it to Sernighat, and at the capture of all their artillery. He then accompanied his regiment to Bithoor, fighting the battle of Kallee Nuddee on the way. He was then present at the Capture of Lucknow and the storming of the Begum's Palace. He was also present through the hot weather campaign of 1858 at the battle of and capture of Bareilly. For this campaign he received the Indian mutiny medal, with clasps for the relief of Lucknow and capture of Lucknow. In 1862 he took part in the Umbeyla war, on the north-west frontier hills of India, and received the frontier war medal, with clasps for Umbeyla. He has in all five medals and six clasps. He was discharged from the army in 1871. He was a very brave and gallant soldier, and has done good service to this country, and is deserving of its gratitude. Besides the campaigns he served in, he survived through four epidemics of cholera, in one of which his regiment was decimated, and although (in the Crimea especially) 'in rags, overworked, and insufficiently fed, he never complained.'"

Through the assistance of Mr. Geo. A. Doran, J. P., who "discovered" old Peter last year, and has since shown him much kindness—as he gratefully acknowledges—our representative was enabled yesterday to trace M'Kay to his humble lodgings at the rear of York Street, and to glean from him some facts about his remarkable career. Notwithstanding his advanced age and his long battle with poverty and misfortune, more insidious foes than the shot and shell, the disease and other perils to which he was so often exposed in war, M'Kay looks a hale and vigorous man. He has a thorough military bearing; is extremely intelligent, and has a retentive memory which can recall, with little difficulty, all the dates, movements, and incidents of his military life. He was born, he says, in Berry Street, Belfast, on March 28th, 1828, and enlisted on April 6th, 1854, in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, in which regiment he served nearly eighteen years. He embarked on June 15th of the same year for the seat of war in Bulgaria, afterwards to take part in the various engagements detailed above by Lieutenant-General Burroughs. There were several other Belfast men in the regiment, one being his brother, who died in the Punjab, and others whose names he remembers being Privates Robert Foote, Robert Herdman, King and Shields; the latter died in Balaclava of malarial fever. One of the principal events in which he was first engaged was the storming of the heights of Alma. After burying the dead they proceeded in a southward direction to Balaclava. They slept in the bush, and on 27th or 28th September went down and took Balaclava. After that the main column formed up to go to the front and the Sutherlands, being the junior regiment, were left at Balaclava to protect the harbour. On October 25th they were called in the morning to go down to Balaclava and formed what became known in history as the "thin red line." To the left front were the heavy and the light cavalry. The Russian cavalry, 1,600 or 1,700 strong, came down on the English line of infantry, which numbered only some 450, and were repulsed, the heavy cavalry charging as they retired, and so making more effective the retreat. With his own eyes Peter witnessed that glorious charge of the Heavy Brigade that has been immortalised by Tennyson—

They rode like victors and lords
Thro' the forest of lances and swords
In the heart of the Russian hordes,
They rode, or they stood at bay—
Struck with the sword-hand and slew,
Down with the bridle-hand drew
The foe fron the saddle and threw
Under foot there in the fray—
Ranged like a storm or stood like a rock
In the wave of a stormy day;
Till suddenly shock upon shock
Staggered the mass from without,
Drove it in wild dismay,
For our men galloped up with a cheer and a shout,
And the foemen surged, and waver'd, and reel'd
Up the hill, up the hill, up the hill, out of the field
And over the brow and away.

When M'Kay joined the regiment at Varna it was some 1,050 strong; at Balaclava on October 25th the numbers had been reduced to about 450 or 500, showing the havoc wrought by war and disease. As to M'Kay himself, he never had an hour's sickness. "I was," he says, "one of the hardy ones from Belfast." The experiences related by M'Kay in connection with the Indian mutiny are most thrilling, but he is very modest in describing the part played therein by himself. It speaks sufficiently for the services he rendered, however, that he is the possessor of five medals and six clasps. At Cawnpore, in December 1857, he was instrumental in saving the life of General Sir J. A. Ewart, K. C. B., then brevet Lieutenant-Colonel. The Colonel had been wounded in the arm, and M'Kay promptly taking a bandage from his handkerchief bound it so skilfully as to stop the bleeding, which must other-

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wise soon have led to death, until the arrival of a doctor who dressed the wound—a wound so severe that the arm had to be amputated. In connection with this incident the following letter received by M'Kay from General Ewart is interesting, and confirms the truth of this statement :—

September 28th, 1896.

To Private M'Kay,

Late 93rd Sutherland Highlanders.

I have received your letter and well remember your running to my assistance, and tying up my left arm when half of it was carried away by a cannon ball at Cawnpore on the 1st December 1857. I have, also, not forgotten your going with me and White into the Redan on the night of the 8th September, 1855, when I wanted to ascertain if the Russians had really gone. It was fortunate that the Russian torpedo did not kill either of us on that occasion. You or White must, I think, have stepped on a wire, and so caused it to explode. I thought at first you were both done for. Another of the ten volunteers who entered the Redan on the night of the 8th September, 1855, with MacBean, wrote to me lately. He is now a shore porter at Rothesay, and his name is Daniel Duncan. I am very glad to hear that you have been granted a pension of a shilling a day, as you well deserve it.

Next month I am going to Glasgow for the annual Balaclava dinner, which is to take place this year on Friday, the 16th October, in the Trades' Hall, as the 25th falls on a Sunday.

I hear the wives and daughters are to be present, and that several of the 91st (who have just moved from Aldershot to Glasgow) are to be invited. Colonel Leith-Hay is still alive, but Major-General C. H. Cordon, who commanded our Light Company at Alma, died last year. Colonel Cooper also died lately.

I have just returned home from the "Northern Meeting" at Inverness, and met there Sergeant Graham, who used to be in No. 6 Company, and also No. 2531, John McDonald, who was with the 93rd in Crimea and Sudra, and afterwards joined the 78th when I commanded the Ross-shire Buffs. Enclosed is a Post Office order for £1, which I hope will be of service to you.

(Sd.) J. A. E.

At Lucknow, M'Kay also helped to save the life of Lieutenant-General Burroughs. When the soldiers were clearing out the city after taking it, an explosion occurred and a heavy portion of a wall fell on the officer's thigh, which was broken in consequence. M'Kay helped to remove the heavy piece of masonry, and then carried Lieutenant-General Burroughs to a doctor. His part in the relief of Lucknow is one upon which M'Kay looks back with intense pride. . . . . .

M'Kay left the army in 1871, and for the next twenty years worked at the docks or in the warehouses, carrying deals, loading and unloading grain, and doing other heavy jobs, to earn a livelihood; for one cannot subsist on glory alone. In 1890 he was injured and rendered unfit for work, and in November, 1891, came the pension of a shilling a day. Last year he was present at the unveiling of the statue of the Queen, at the Queen Victoria Schools, in connection with Christ Church—for he is a thorough loyalist, and on the twelfth of July he headed the Orange procession to Mallusk; on the occasion of both these public appearances being loudly cheered as he carried in his hands the Royal Standard and the Union Jack.

Shooting Matches at Shahjehanpur.

"E" Company v. "F" Company.

Fired on Shahjehanpur range on 28th April, 1898, resulting in a win for "F" Company by 39 points.

The day was windy and not conducive to good shooting. Regulation marking. Scores—

"F" Company.		*"E" Company.*	
Sergeant Soutar ...	65	Sergeant Weller ...	66
Private Broadley ...	65	Corporal Fawcett ...	63
Corporal Reid	64	Private Neilson ...	62
Drummer Buchanan ...	62	Corporal Ogg ...	56
Lance-Corporal Lawrie ...	61	Lance-Corporal Duncan ...	55
Corporal Forbes ...	57	Private Rutherford ...	52
,, Miller	57	Corporal Fearn ...	48
Private Morrison	50	Sergeant Robertson ...	40
Total ...	481	Total ...	442

This match was followed by another one between "E" and "F" against "G" and "H" Companies. Musketry being in progress, the ranges were only available in the cool of the evening, and it was quite dusk before the concluding shots could be fired. Scores declared a tie, but the "right half" claimed a win on the best scores at the longer distance. Scores—

"E" and "F" Companies.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Color-Sergeant Ditcham	24	33	32	89
Sergeant Soutar	27	28	24	79
,, Durnan	23	26	24	73
,, Pringle	30	20	22	71
,, Weller	19	25	21	65
,, Robertson	16	19	13	48
Totals ...	139	160	136	435

"G" and "H" Companies.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergeant Dawson	24	28	26	78
,, Stubbs	25	27	24	76
,, Gunn	22	28	24	74
,, Dunkeld	28	25	21	74
,, Gordon	29	23	16	68
,, Clark	26	22	17	65
Totals ...	154	153	128	435

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Scholastic Joke.—At a recent examination held in the Regimental School (preliminary) rather an amusing incident in dictation occurred.

In the piece of dictation given out to aspiring 2nd and 3rd class certificate men, the following phrase was utilised—"biennial trousers."

Curiously not a single man happened to hit upon the correct way of spelling the word "biennial," but a happy idea struck one brilliant aspirant and he at once wrote down the following—"buy any old trousers." He must have been thinking of that well-known warehouse at home with Three Brass Balls as its trade-mark.

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INSPECTION BY BRIGADIER-GENERAL CLIFFORD.

We had hoped that the informal inspection held by Brigadier-General Egerton at Boya on the 1st January would be all the inspecting we should suffer this year, but Simla decreed otherwise, and on the 21st March we were informed that our annual inspection would commence on the 23rd. This short notice had the great convenience that there was no time for any one to get inspection fever, and everthing about the battalion was in its usual condition and not specially faked up for the occasion.

Owing to the short time the regiment had been in cantonments, we were excused doing the "physical drill," which had not been practised since we left Nowshera, so on the morning of the 23rd, after the General had ridden round the ranks, we doubled 1,000 yards and then dismissed. At 11-30 A.M. books, guard reports, &c., were inspected, which took up till nearly 1 o'clock. Parade again at 3-45 P.M. for outpost duty beyond the cavalry lines, the front being marked by a small stream, and the right of the line of sentries bounded on the right by the cemetery. Majors Napier and Campbell commanded the two sections of the outpost line. Captain Aitken commanded the reserve. The General arrived about 5 P.M., and rode round the line and then sounded the "Alert," when the firing line opened fire and the supports advanced. The "Cease fire" and "Retire" were sounded about 5-45, and we returned to barracks.

Thursday was, as usual, observed as a holiday, and the inspection was resumed on Friday, 25th, when different companies were inspected. "A" Company paraded in marching order, "F" Company dug shelter trenches and "G" Company were inspected in escalading the fort. At 11 o'clock the General went round barracks and inspected the kits, afterwards visiting the dinners and examining the officers in their knowledge of bugle calls. In the afternoon there was a ceremonial parade at 5 P.M., march past, manual and firing exercise, battalion drill, ending with an advance in review order.

On Saturday, 26th, the inspection was in musketry at the rifle range. "F" Company did the section attack, and the officers, warrant and staff non-commissioned officers at revolver practice. In his remarks on the result of the inspection General Clifford wrote—"The battalion consists of a fine, sturdy, well-set-up lot of men and they move well. Every excuse is to be made for their failing in slight *minutiæ*, as they have lately returned from so many months' field service, and a little steady drill will soon remedy all defects."

What the Parrot is saying.

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

That the mairch up tae Chaubattia wis a novelty tae a guid few.

That the stages wis easy.

That thae germs are verra venemous.

That Chaubattia wanted discoverin.'

That the last hill wis a breather.

That "the 93rd would tak it."

That the first few nichts in new quarters wis lively.

That it was waur than Tochi "sniping."

That Chaubattia is a "nice quiet place,"

That it'll no grumble for the next few months at ony rate.

That Hockey is becomin' popular.

That the parade-ground is ower sma.'

That the sun is ower het—for the hills.

That it's an ill-wind that blaes nae body ony guid.

That it's a peety the Gymnasium is no' a bit bigger.

That the range is an unco' guid ane for the hills.

That there has been some guid firin' by the "Rookies."

That there are already some enthusiastic "fly-dodgers."

That the N. C. Os. are enterin' a team for the Physical Drill Shield.

That it's a peety Ranikhet's no a little nearer.

That visitors there seem tae be ower partial tae stayin' the nicht.

That thae provosts are awfu' obleegin' in this respect.

That the left wing didna' remain very lang at Bareilly, by itsel'.

That Shahjehanpur is a gran' plain station it believes.

That a Polisman wis in a maist exalted position on the Queen's Birthday.

That an auld doug for a hard road.

That the hills hisna' affected his firin.'

That she's a praw, praw lad is her nainsel'.

That the Oban dialect is peculiar.

That is a man no' a prophet in his country?

That "Pretty Polly, pretty dear, all the way frae Mian Mir" is no up tae date.

That "Pretty Polly, pretty pet, all the way frae Ranikhet" would be better.

That fitba' is looking up.

That it's time the regimental team made a stairt.

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PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

To be Sergeants—

No. 2343, Lance-Sergeant T. Gillespie, "A" Company; No. 3394, Lance-Sergeant J. Durnan, "F" Company.

To be paid Lance-Sergeants—

No. 1484, Lance-Sergeant A. Watters, "C" Company; No. 3581, Corporal F. Beavis, "G" Company.

To be Corporals—

No. 3967, Lance-Corporal Duncan, "A" Company; No. 4526, Lance-Corporal W. Watt, "D" Company; No. 4628, Lance-Corporal G. Ballantyne, "E" Company; No. 2768, Lance-Corporal McRae, "C" Company; No. 3293, Lance-Corporal H. Williams, "B" Company; No. 3611, Lance-Corporal A. Maskell, "D" Company; No. 3809, Lance-Corporal Guy Watson, "A" Company.

To be paid Lance-Corporals—

No. 2809, Lance-Corporal Lyons, "E" Company; No. 3344, Lance-Corporal Lawrie, "F" Company; No. 5230, Lance-Corporal Yardley, "H" Company; No. 2954, Lance-Corporal Wilson, "F" Company; No. 3409, Lance-Corporal Hanlon, "D" Company; No. 3995, Lance-Corporal Little, "D" Company; No. 4567, Lance-Corporal Inglis, "G" Company; No. 5081, Lance-Corporal Kelly, "C" Company; No. 4019, Lance-Corporal Birkenshaw, "E" Company; No. 5763, Lance-Corporal Allison, "C" Company; No. 6133, Lance-Corporal J. Roberts, "G" Company; No. 3022, Lance-Corporal W. Moat, "A" Company; No. 5501, Lance-Corporal Houston, "D" Company; No. 4715, Lance-Corporal J. Miller, "E" Company; No. 4983, Lance-Corporal Rutherford, "E" Company; No. 5256, Lance-Corporal T. Atkinson, "E" Company.

To be Drummers—

No. 2539, Private H. Lowe, "A" Company.

To be Acting Drummer—

No. 4276, Private W. Ballantine, "A" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals—

No. 5484, Private "G" Ure, "B" Company; No. 3849, Drummer J. Duff, "G" Company; No. 3825, Private A. Binns, "A" Company (Assistant to Provost Sergeant); No. 5607, Private G. Rowley-Miller, "A" Company (School Assistant); No. 3848, Private J. McPherson; No. 4773, Private A. Wilson; No. 5826, Private N. Oliphant; No. 5049, Private J. Rafferty, "A" Company; No. 3990, Private G. Gardner; No. 5597, Private W. Johnstone; No. 5665, Private M. O'Connell, "D" Company; No. 5601, Private E. A. Daniel, "H" Company; No. 5548, Private J. McDonald, "C" Company.

No. 737, 2nd class Armourer-Sergeant W. Holden to be 1st class Armourer-Sergeant.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 2342,	Sergeant	Gillespie,	"A"	to "B"	Company.
" 3394,	Lance-Sergt.	Durnan,	"D"	" "F"	"
" 4526,	Lance-Corpl.	Watt,	"A"	" "D"	"
" 2627,	Sergeant	Stewart,	"D"	" "A"	"
" 3865,	"	Campbell,	"A"	" "D"	"
" 787,	"	Dunkeld,	"G"	" "H"	"
" 3186,	Corporal	Robinson,	"F"	" "D"	"
" 5181,	"	Cumming,	"F"	" "D"	"
" 3186,	Sergt.	Hanson,	"G"	" "H"	"
" 2956,	"	G. Gunn,	"H"	" "G"	"
" 3611,	Corporal	A. Maskell,	"D"	" "B"	"
" 3809,	"	Guy Watson,	"A"	" "D"	"

TRANSFERS.

Private W. Harrison, from 2nd Battalion Yorkshire Regiment, and posted to "A" Company.

ARMOURER'S CERTIFICATE.

Granted a certificate qualifying him to perform duties of Regimental Assistant Armourer—

No. 3769, Private Salmons, "F" Company.

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

Granted Second Class Certificates.

No. 3022,	Lance-Corporal	W. Moat,	"A"	Company.
" 3548,	Private	C. Greenland,	"A"	"
" 5048,	"	J. Hamill,	"A"	"
" 6032,	"	J. Youngson,	"C"	"
" 5552,	"	J. McNair,	"C"	"

Granted Third Class Certificates.

No. 5885,	Private	W. Morrison,		
" 5049,	Lance-Corporal	Rafferty,	"A"	Company.
" 5558,	"	King,	"C"	"
" 5507,	"	Houston,	"D"	"
" 5667,	Private	Goddard,	"A"	"
" 5560,	"	J. Laird,	"C"	"

Granted 3rd class Certificate of Education at Shahjehanpur, on 28th April 1898.

No. 4574,	Lance-Corporal	H. Martin,	"H"	Company.
" 5715,	"	R. Jamieson,	"G"	"
" 5500,	Private	H. Sear,	"H"	"
" 4994,	"	J. Gentles,	"F"	"
" 6088,	"	J. Milne,	"F"	"
" 5841,	"	J. Brown,	"F"	"

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete 21 years' service:—

No. 2886, Sergeant W. Miller, "C" Company.

No. 2765, Corporal J. Murphy, "A" Company.

To complete 12 years with the Colours—

No. 3596, Corporal A. Rankin, "A" Company.

No. 3930, Private W. McMaster, "A" Company.

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Good Conduct Pay.

Granted 2d. per diem :—

"B" Company.

No. 4294, Private G. Newell.

"E" Company.

No. 4019, Lance-Corporal T. Birkenshaw.

"F" Company.

No. 4878, Private J. Mclachlan.

"H" Company.

No. 4288, Drummer H Trodd.

Restored 2d. per diem :—

"D" Company.

No. 3996, Private Hennie.

"F" Company.

No. 4246, Private R Clelland.

"G" Company.

No. 4156, Private C. Jenkins.

Granted 1d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 5760, Private W. Riddoch.

"B" Company.

No. 5653, Private Edwards. No. 5474, Private J. Scott.

"C" Company.

No. 5554, ,, M. Sharpe.

"D" Company.

No. 5672, ,, Kilpatrick. No. 5193, ,, Cole.
,, 5611, ,, G. Pingley. ,, 5194, ,, H. Brown.

"E" Company.

No. 5728, ,, W. Anderson. No. 5779, ,, G. Barnett.
,, 5725, ,, W. Brown. ,, 5724, ,, J. Lamb.
,, 5293, ,, D. McBean, from 17th September 1896.
,, 5758, ,, E. Parry. No. 5732, Private C. Ross.

"F" Company.

No. 5762, Private J. McEachern. No. 5750, Private D. Raphael.
,, 5769, ,, W. Collins. ,, 5777, ,, J. Brown.
,, 4346, ,, J. McMullen.

"G" Company.

,, 5297, ,, W. Andrews. No. 5318, ,, H. Gordon.
,, 5615, ,, G. Fletcher.

"H" Company.

,, 4012, ,, H. McDonald, ,, 5726, ,, W. Sibbald.

Restored 1d. per diem :—

"G" Company.

No. 4025, Private J. McNeill.

"H" Company.

,, 5428, ,, J. Brown.

BIRTHS.

Robertson.—At Shahjehanpur, on the 3rd April 1898, the wife of Sergeant J. Robertson of twins.

Ditcham.—At Shahjehanpur, on the 13th March 1898, the wife of Colour-Sergeant Ditcham of a son.

MARRIAGE.

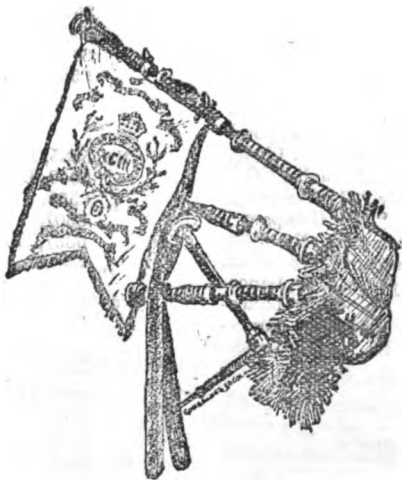
Scott-Thame.—At St. John's in the Wilderness, Naini Tal, on the 7th May 1898, by the Revd. Oscar D. Watkins, Archdeacon of Lucknow—William Scott, Canteen Sergeant, to Annie, daughter of John Thame, Reading.

DEATHS.

Mullen.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjehanpur, on the 23rd April 1898, No. 5977, Private C. Mullen, "F" Company.

Stewart.—At Chaubattia, on the 29th April 1898, Jessie, the infant daughter of Sergeant J. Stewart, "A" Company.

Sculley.—At the Station Hospital, Chaubattia, on the 9th May 1898, No. 5470, Private M. Sculley, "B" Company, of enteric fever.



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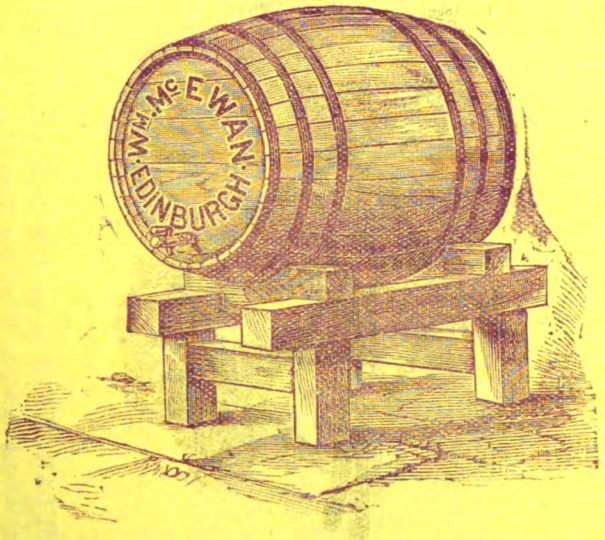

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July 1898

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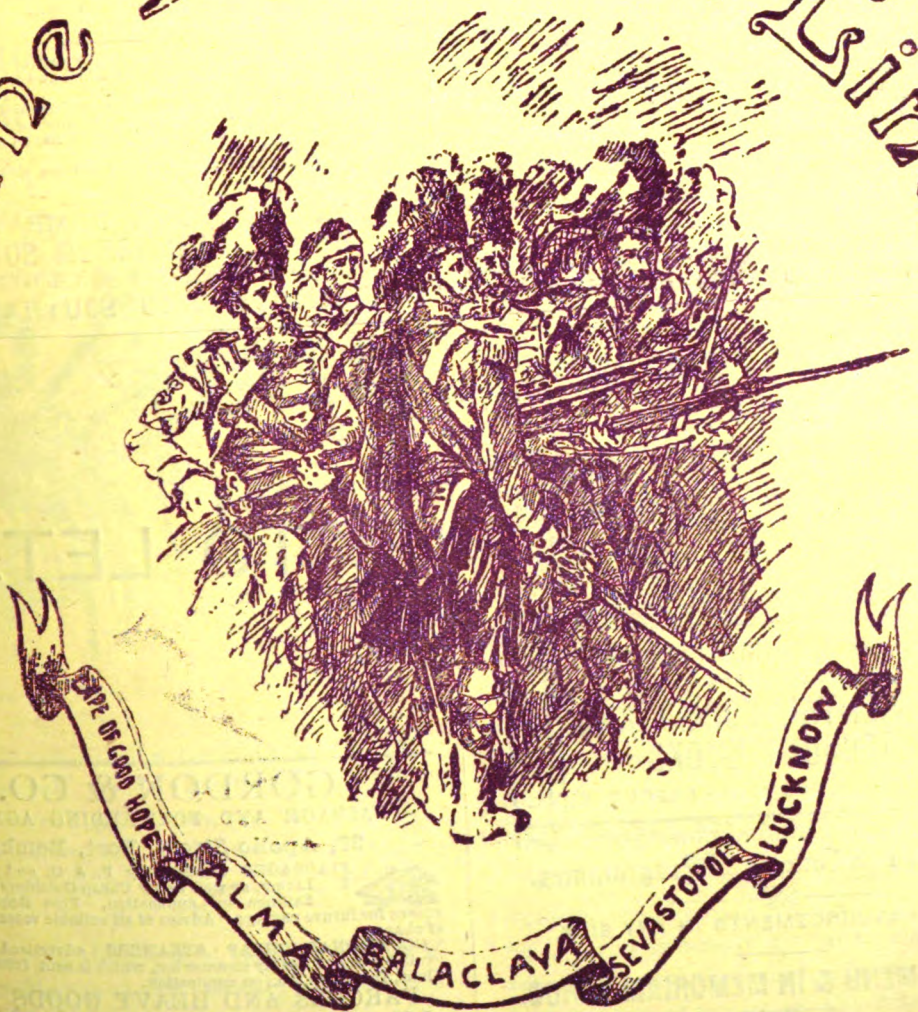
V.4

The Thin Red Line.



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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 3—Vol. IV. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—JULY 1898. Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE first of June *Gazette* brought promotion to our paymaster in the shape of his captaincy. Congratulations.

* * * * * *

Some attempt is being made to get a regimental football eleven together, and there have been several games between "A" and "B" teams—Probables and Possibles—resulting in some very good play.

* * * * * *

Since writing the above a regimental team is really a reality, and has already played three matches. Two against our neighbours, the 59th East Lancashire Regiment at Ranikhet, who had a great reputation at Aldershot, where they proved themselves worthy opponents of our first battalion before the latter's move to Glasgow. Like so many regiments coming abroad, they left most of their players at home when they embarked for India, but in a regiment in which football instincts are strong as in most north country English Corps, this has made little difference, and it was only after playing a draw that we managed to pull off a victory. The third match was against the Standing Camp, in which we were also victorious.

* * * * * *

The band came back from Naini Tal on the 4th, and it is quite a treat to be able to listen to music once again. According to all reports, our musicians thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the summer capital of Bengal, and they were much appreciated by the inhabitants thereof.

* * * * * *

After nearly a month of spasmodic efforts the monsoons seem to have set in in dead earnest, and for the next two months or so we may expect to appear in "cloak" pretty frequently. During our former tours of service in the hills the rainy season was never popular, and after experiencing several almost cloudless summers on the plains

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it is a very severe shock to one's system to have to endure a downpour of some forty-eight hours' duration. Still it is an ill-wind that blows nobody any good, and the sound of the rain upon the iron roofs of the huts about the time of parade hour and the glimpse of a flooded drill square is some recompense for the many discomforts of the rains.

* * * * * *

We believe 1899 pattern khaki is to have the rolled or turned down collar as at present worn by officers. This should have a very neat and workmanlike effect though less comfortable than the old pattern in the hot weather, when lightness is such a consideration. The present 1898 jacket is in some respects an improvement on its predecessor, but it is difficult to understand the advantage of doing away with the cartridge-holders above the breast pockets; these besides being distinctive and serviceable looking were very useful for orderly sergeants, and such like personages, as they would hold a goodly assortment of pencils, pens and other equally indispensible articles, not forgetting the whistle, all of which have now to be carried in the pockets. It would be a great improvement if the whistle could be attached to a small lanyard worn round the neck, as at the present time it is not always to be got at when wanted in a hurry, and a whistle, like charity, covers a multitude of sins at times.

* * * * * *

In acknowledgment of their distinguished conduct on the 10th June 1897 the 1st Sikhs, 1st Punjab Infantry, and No. 6 Bombay Mountain Battery are to bear "Maizar" inscribed on the colours, although only small detachments of these corps were there engaged.

* * * * * *

On the 10th the officers were "At home" at the mess to the "warrant officers and sergeants and their wives," to tennis and badminton, and the back-bone of the regiment and their better halves spent a most enjoyable afternoon. The band and pipes were in attendance, and played a most pleasing selection.

* * * * * *

Reinforcements to the standing camp at Ranikhet in the shape of 100 rank and file, chiefly men of the draft belonging to the left wing at Shahjehanpur, marched in there on Thursday, 9th ultimo, under Lieutenant R. J. P. Cox. The march up from Kathgodam was a most wet and uncomfortable one, as the party were caught in many of the heavy thunder-storms that we in the hills have been subject to lately; small tents are not ideally comfortable in a monsoon shower, especially if there has been no time to dig a trench. The party forms No. 3 section of the Standing Camps, and Sergeant Soutar is Pay Sergeant; 2nd Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean from the wing here has taken over command of the section, Lieutenant Cox having returned to Shahjehanpur.

* * * * * *

Despite the very unsettled weather musketry has been going on apace, and there is now only one company and the band to fire its annual course.

"D" Company finished about the middle of the month with an average of 77 for individual and 44 for collective practices, but the weather had a lot to do with this comparatively poor performance. Color-Sergeant Chaplin is "Company shot," and there are eight other marksmen.

"B" Company has also completed with an average of 84 and 46 and there are twenty-one marksmen. Lance-Sergeant Johnstone secured the "star" with a capital score of 27 at 800 yards.

* * * * * *

The officers are at home at the mess every Friday afternoon, and seem to be very fortunate in their weather.

* * * * * *

There was a smoking concert in the sergeants' mess on the evening of Wednesday, the 29th ultimo, to celebrate the first anniversary of the battalion's departure from Nowshera on that long and thirsty march to Tochi One suggestion to live on "Digby Chicks" and keep the bar closed was an excellent one, for reproducing, if possible, the horrors of that drouthy march, but was not adopted.

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The concert was almost entirely a regimental affair, the weather being too inclement to expect many visitors from so far as Ranikhet, although one or two came. There was a fairly good programme, including all the topical songs for which the Tochi was responsible, and the usual toasts, including "Departed Comrades," which was drunk in silence, and a short speech from the Chairman, who dwelt upon the hardships that were borne so uncomplainingly without any compensating excitement, the excellent work done by the regiment and the good name gained by it.

For the drouth and scarcity of a twelve months previous there was ample recompense this night, and it was early on Thursday morning before the anniversary could be fitly concluded.

* * * * * *

A billiard handicap in the sergeants' mess was concluded during the month, resulting in a win for Sergeant James Gunn, who beat Sergeant R. Miller in the final.

* * * * * *

The Tennis Court attached to the sergeants' mess has been got into working order, but of late the weather has prevented anything but an occasional game.

* * * * * *

Although it is the close season at present, Chaubattia gives promise of some excellent shooting later on. *Cheetahs* and leopards have been reported even lurking quite near barracks; the dense forests stretching north and east are bound to afford cover to almost any quantity of deer, and the barking species have been heard frequently down the *khud* when the moon has been bright, and also in the early morning.

* * * * * *

With a better knowledge of the place, Chaubattia seems to have improved somewhat, and now that the wing is settled down it appears less of a wilderness than formerly. It is certainly a most straggling place, and for its extent appears almost capable of holding a regiment instead of only four companies, but all the institutes are central, and there is one main road running from the officers' mess to the orderly room, the extremities, as it were of the place, and so you cannot very well lose your way, unless the night happens to be extremely dark, or the canteen been extra strong. A billiard table has been opened in the games room, and is well patronised, but the institutes are rather small, for the present wet weather, especially the temperance room, which is crowded to suffocation at times, and seems to be almost as popular as the canteen. When it is not raining there is nearly always a football match of some kind in the evening, second elevens flourishing in the absence of first teams, and the addition of a wattle hedge round the *khud* side of the parade square saves a good many balls from going over and improves the appearance of the square immensely, though it has somewhat restricted the range of targets available when the battalion drops in to firing volleys by half companies, &c. This would hardly be called a drawback by most, however, and you cannot expect unmixed blessings in this world.

* * * * * *

Wei-Hai-Wei, the *batta* and the medal have perhaps been the things most talked about during the month. According to rumour two regiments with more than six and less than nine years' service in this country are to go from India to our latest colonial acquisitions during the next trooping season, and, of course, we happen to be one of the few regiments for fulfilling these conditions. As for *batta* the *Pioneer* first notified the fact that *batta* was to be granted to all troops employed on the frontier during the late disturbances at the same rate as that allowed for the Chitral Expedition, and this was Rs. 24 for a private soldier and proportionally greater for higher ranks.

The medal will, of course, come in good time, and we shall all get a bar inscribed "Panjab Frontier, 1897-98" and not "Tochi" as we all hoped. A few fortunate people, including the signallers, will in addition receive the Tirah Clasp, but for every one's information we publish the despatch from the Secretary of State on another page.

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A Lance-Naik of No. 3 Peshawar Mountain Battery, it will perhaps be remembered, was recommended by General Corrie Bird for the Humane Society Medal for his gallant rescue of a driver in the Sartoi Nallah when that *nallah* was suddenly flooded by a terrific thunderstorm, and mules and men were washed off their feet. This was during the ever-to-be-remembered march of General Symon's column to Dadam, and the Society's silver medal has been granted to the Gunner for his plucky act on that occasion.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant-General Sir Baker Russell Commanding Bengal, has, so the *Pioneer* says, accepted the command of the Southern District (Portsmouth), and will shortly go home. Sir George Luck, who was for some time Inspector-General of Cavalry in India, is said to be his probable successor at Naini Tal.

* * * * * *

2nd Lieutenants A. Kennedy and O. Herbert have joined us from home, and have been posted to "A" and "B" Companies, respectively.

* * * * * *

We are all particularly thankful to have got rid of the valise, especially the defaulters, for it has been called in prior to being returned to the arsenal. In this country they have always appeared a most useless part of a man's equipment, and in the way when you wanted to pack a black bag. Although they were hardly ever worn, there was always the off-chance of some kind individual perhaps wanting to see how one looked in a valise, and then it wanted about twenty-four hours, and a steam hammer to make them effective.

* * * * * *

We have to apologise to our many esteemed contemporaries for not having been able to send them our last two numbers, April and June, owing to the large increase in our sale for those two months. This month, however, we intend making arrangements with our printers for a further supply to meet the increased demand.

* * * * * *

The East Lancashire Regiment held their regimental sports at Ranikhet on the 2nd ultimo with two or three open events, but they only billed Chaubattia on the morning of the sports, and there was only one entry from ours, Lance-Sergeant Johnstone, who won the tat race, open to non-commissioned officers, with ridiculous ease.

* * * * * *

We have been visited by a couple of travelling Dramatic Companies during the month, and both were welcomed by the troops as a break in the monotony of existence. The animatograph of the first company was a very interesting entertainment, but both "gaffs" were of the usual travelling company type, and were only well patronised the first night. It is time the regiment itself woke up to something in the dramatic line, as there is some excellent material in the battalion, and a really good entertainment would be appreciated by every one. We hear that some attempt is being made to give the troops something for their money in the shape of a variety entertainment including an original black farce by our own librettist.

* * * * * *

We are fairly musical at Chaubattia. The band plays at mess, afternoon and night every Friday, and at the coffee shop on Wednesdays from 8 to 9 P.M., whilst as usual the pipes and drums play Reveille, Retreat and Tattoo through the lines of Tuesdays and Fridays.

What the Parrot is saying.

THAT there wis some awfu' rumurs aboot Wei-hai-Wei, or what iver ye ca' the place.

That that batta's of more account tho' jist the noo.

That it hopes it'ill no be long comin'

That 24 rats w'll mean 96 pots. Man its gran' tae be an arcethmeteechan.

That there'll be an awfu' amount o' side tae carry in aboot twa years' time.

That the medal 'ill be aboot available by that time it hopes.

That the monsoons are somewhat of a novelty.
That it can rain tae in Chaubattia.
That "it's an ill wind that blaes naebody ony guid."
That there are a lot of "Gowd Guns" knockin' aboot.
That there'll be "bags tae go" in aboot a fortnicht.
That the 27th wis a great day tae be sure.

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That it had a guid drink at the regiment's expense on that day.

That the 29th wis a greater wi' the Sergeants.

That it wis a pity tha its licht weight Champion wis no in form on that nicht.

That fit-ba' is looking up.

That the team his been playin' up well lately.

That they'll miss their old coach.

That the new anc has some guid material tae work up.

That it wis certainly hard lines for the musicians on the 14th

That the band had a gran' time at Naini.

That the rank o' a certain individual puzzled the folk mightally.

That the Sergeants had a maist enjoyable afternoon on the 10th.

That there should be some gran' skikar about the end o' next month.

That some gran' gymnasts are wanted.

That the man who could get is eye in line wi' that thing ca'd trajectory need be ane.

That all the "Flags" are wantin' off tae the Depie.

That it kens why there are sae mony bald-heided Sergeants.

—:o:—

Foot-ball Notes.

93RD HIGHLANDERS *v.* EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT.

—o—

THE regimental team went to Ranikhet on Saturday, 11th ultimo, to play the "Lily-whites" on the polo ground there.

A very good game resulted, ending in a draw with no goals each.

Our team had very bad luck, as they sent the ball through their opponents' goal no less than three times, but nothing resulted. The first goal was decided as being "off side," another was disallowed by the referee for a "foul kick," whilst the third after at first being given was disallowed, as it was somewhat doubtful whether the ball really went between the posts, at any rate the Captain of our team decided not to claim it. The game was very fast, and considering the little training our team have had, they shaped very well. There has been a considerable infusion of new blood owing to some of the old players being still at Shahjehanpore, but the new material is of the right sort.

The following was our team :—

Geddes (*C*).
Kerr (*C*). Scott (*B*).
Johnson (*C*). Hamilton (*E*). Patterson (*C*).
Stewart (*A*). Henry (*B*).
McKenzie (*D*). Hurry (*C*). Leitch (*C*)

Thursday, the 14th, witnessed the return match between the East Lancashires and ourselves on our own ground at Chaubattia. The afternoon after many misgivings turned out a fine one, and although the ground was somewhat heavy, it made little difference to the play.

Just at five-thirty———kicked off, and the ball for the first five minutes or so travelled rapidly up and down the field. After about ten minutes' play our forwards, however, took the ball along, and Leitch scored the first goal by heading the ball through neatly from the left. The second goal was scored by McKenzie, and at half time the score stood 2 to nothing in our favour.

The second half of the game was much less interesting than the first, Rae only putting another goal to our credit, although our men out-played the "Lilywhites" at all points, and appeared to be better trained. The match thus ended most satisfactorily in a win by three goals to *nil*, though, in justice to our opponents, it must be said that they were without the services of one of their best players, their centre half-back, whose play was very conspicuous in the match against us at Ranikhet.

The band, pipes and drums, played alternately during the afternoon, and there were a large number of visitors from Ranikhet, including General Evans, who were entertained on the ground, the officers being "At home."

After the match the teams were entertained to a supper in the coffee shop, after which the East Lancashires returned to Ranikhet, though their journey must have been a wet one, heavy rain coming on as the evening departed. Our team was almost the same as last time, except for Stevenson (D) in goal, and Lance-Corporal Wilson (*A*) took the place of Hamilton who had been hurt.

93RD HIGHLANDERS *v.* STANDING CAMP, RANIKHET.

The following Tuesday the standing camp at Ranikhet, where are some 120 of our left wing from Shahjehanpur, sent up their team, a very smart one, containing five of our own players, to do battle against us. They had a few weeks previously proved their mettle by playing a draw with the East Lancashires.

A very good match resulted, though the ground was very heavy, and we only managed to secure a victory by 2 goals to one, one of these two being kicked through by the Standing Camp's own right-back in his anxiety to save.

* * * * * *

There have been several inter-company matches during the late month, but none of any special interest, or excitement, as well as matches between "A" and "B" teams of the regiment, which have been productive of more or less good play. Second elevens have also been to the fore, and there have been one or two "curio" matches between teams yclept "time-expired" and "Bounty men." A team from the Convalescent Depôt at Ranikhet has also tried its strength against some of the company teams, but without success.

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The Composition of Highland Regiments.

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THERE have been many discussions of late in the home papers as to the composition of Highland Regiments at the present time. Mr. John Mackay, the Editor of *The Celtic Monthly* in writing to some of the Scottish papers on the subject gives some interesting information relative to Highland recruiting in the early part of the century and to the composition of the various regiments at that time when, despite the fact that the territorial system had not been introduced, nor even thought of, the bulk of each regiment appears to have belonged to its ancient recruiting district. His few remarks about our own regiment are most interesting and we heartily re-echo Mr. Mackay's wish about recruiting in our own district, Sutherland.

Mr. Mackay in his article says—

From 1740 to the end of the century 50 battalions were raised in the Highlands. In 1779-80, 13,585 Highlanders joined the army, and in 1803-04 another body of 8,651 men joined these Highland regiments. That in itself is a record which the Lowland Scot cannot equal. From Waterloo till the Crimea there was really no great war, so that the reputation of the Highland regiments was practically won prior to the latter date. We know that these kilted regiments were originally raised in the Highlands, and that they were recruited principally there. It follows therefore that the bulk of the men were Gaels.

It is interesting to examine the composition of the various kilted regiments at different times. Let us take, for instance, the Camerons and Seaforths, as they bulk so largely just now in public interest. The Camerons when first raised consisted of nearly 1,000 Highlanders, and up to Waterloo the extraneous element was very small. When the Camerons left for the Crimea they consisted of 878 Scots and 11 English and Irish. On 1st January, 1857, before proceeding to India, the numbers, were 895 Scots and 76 English and Irish; in 1861, 1037 Scots and 232 English and Irish. That brings us down to a comparatively recent date. What the proportions are to-day I cannot say for certain, but I am willing to believe that there are a good few English in the ranks for a reason which I shall further allude to. The Seaforth's when raised, numbered 1,000 Highlanders, and in 1811 it contained 834; in 1854, 758 Scots and 87 English and Irish; in 1856, 920 Scots and 177 English and Irish; in 1861, 866 Scots and 284 English and Irish. The 92nd Gordon Highlanders when raised three-fourths were Highlanders, and up till Waterloo nine-tenths were Scots, chiefly Highlanders in 1854, 855 Scots and 16 English and Irish; in 1856, 991 Scots and 45 English and Irish; in 1857, 1,043 Scots and 47 English and Irish; and in 1861, 659 Scots and 191 English and Irish. In 1818 there were only 53 men in the Black Watch who were not Scots. The 93rd Sutherland Highlanders :—1854, 785 Scots and 1 Englishman; 1856, 1,058 Scots and 54 English and Irish; 1857, 984 Scots and 84 English and Irish. The six Highland regiments which formed the Highland Brigade in the Crimea consisted of 6,164 Scotts and 738 English and Irish. These figures may be accepted as accurate, as they are collated from the Service books.

It will be thus seen that so far as the making of the reputation of our Highland regiments is concerned the English and Irish may be well left out of account, as their representation in the regiments was very small. It is not possible, however, to get at the exact proportions represented by the Highlander and Lowlander, but as these were Highland regiments, recruited each in its own district, we may fairly assume that the Highlanders far outnumbered the Lowlanders. Indeed I know myself of six Mackays, all related and all belonging to the Reay district, who were in the "Thin Red Line" at Balaclava showing that there was a large district representation in each regiment.

It was during the years dating from their formation till the Battle of Waterloo that the Highland Regiments earned that great renown which has reflected so much glory upon Scotland, and during those years those regiments were what they were named—really "Highland Regiments." I admit there are a good many what I might call "outsiders" in the Camerons to-day—perhaps more so than in any of the other regiments. It is well known that the War Office tried hard to deprive the Camerons of the kilt and draft them into a battalion of the Scots Guards. From 1891 to 93 the regiment was thrown open for recruiting in England, and a good few joined. It will be noticed that those whose names figure in the list of killed and wounded at Atbara enlisted in 1891 and 1892, but none since. The lads showed up bravely, and I give them credit for doing honour to the regiment; but what I wish to point out is that each regiment has its own territorial district, with which its interests and old-time associations are connected.

It can readily be understood, therefore, that an Invernessian would feel more keen in regard to the honour of his own county regiment than a Cockney would. And let the 93rd be allowed to recruit in its own county, Sutherland. That is why I should like to see our Highland Regiments filled with Highlanders, who have in all ages proved themselves grand soldiers—a terror to their country's foes and exemplary in their conduct in times of peace. If a Cockney wishes to take up a military life let him join one of his own regiments.

In my opinion there are now splendid opportunities for a spirited young fellow making a comfortable position for himself in the army, apart altogether from the purely patriotic side of the question, and I consider it disgraceful that a small section of Highlanders in this city should sneer at the army, and go out of their way to induce their countrymen not to join it. These men no more represent the 10,000 members of the Highland societies in Glasgow than they represent China, and their conduct has roused a strong feeling of resentment not only here, but among Highlanders in all parts of the kingdom.

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An Old Soldier's Desire.

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Sir Colin Campbell once visited Chichester Depôt to inspect it, and revealed one great secret of his popularity. He told the story himself:—

"I noticed that an old man, evidently an old soldier, though in plain clothes, was constantly on the ground and apparently watching my movements. As I was leaving the barrack yard at the end of the inspection, he came towards me, drew himself up, made the military salute, and with much respect, said, 'Sir Colin, may I speak to you? Look at me, sir; do you recollect me?' I looked at him, and replied 'Yes, I do.' 'What is my name?' he asked. I told him. 'Yes, sir; and where did you last see me?' 'In the breach of San Sebastian,' I replied, 'badly wounded, by my side.' 'Right, sir,' answered the old soldier. 'I can tell you something more,' I added, 'you were No.—in the front rank of my company.' 'Right, sir,' said the veteran. I was putting my hand into my pocket to make the old man a present, when he stepped forward laid his hand on my wrist, and said, 'No, sir, that is not what I want, but you will be going to Shorncliffe to inspect the Depôt there. I have a son in the 27th Inniskillings quartered at that station, and if you would call him out, and tell him that you knew his father, that is what I would wish."

The above incident happened forty-three years after the taking of San Sebastian, in the Peninsular days, where both veterans fought and bled in the ranks of the "9th Holy Boys."

Sir Colin, when Commander-in-Chief in India, could recognise by name all the men of his favourite regiment (the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders) who had served in the Crimea.

———:o:———

A Medal!

—o—

It is notified that the Governor-General in Council has much gratification in publishing for general information a despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 26th May. The despatch reads:—

I have considered in Council Your Excellency's letter of the 10th March, in which you recommend the grant of the Indian Medal of 1895 for the various military operations that have recently taken place on the North-West frontier. They commenced with the outbreak in the Tochi Valley on the 10th June 1897, and terminated on the 6th April last—a period which includes the punishment of the Darwesh Khel Waziris, the brilliant defence of the Malakand and Chakdara, the operations in the Swat Valley and Bajaur, the defeat of the Mohmands at Shabkadr, and subsequently in their own country, the various actions on the line from Kohat to the Samana range and Kurram, the short well-planned campaign against the tribes of Buner and Chamla, and, finally, the Tirah campaign against the powerful Orakzai and Afridi clans, resulting in their complete submission and compliance with the terms imposed by your Government. You recommend that the Medal with Clasp inscribed "Punjab Frontier, 1897-98," should be conferred on all troops in the field, and in addition a Clasp inscribed "Malakand, 1897," "Samana, 1897," "Tirah, 1897-98" to the troops engaged in those particular operations.

I have now the gratification of informing Your Excellency that Her Majesty the Queen-Empress has been pleased to sanction your recommendation, and that an Army Order notifying the grant of the Indian Medal in the manner proposed by your Government will shortly be issued.

It is also my gratifying duty to convey to you an expression of the high sense which Her Majesty's Government entertain of the moderation, judgment and energy displayed by Your Excellency in Council in dealing with these outbreaks, and to congratulate you on the success which has attended your efforts for their suppression. Her Majesty's Government cordially concur in the terms in which in your order of the 4th March, 1898, you convey to His Excellency Sir George White your sense of the distinguished ability with which both in the general direction of these operations and throughout his term of office he has discharged the responsible duties of Commander-in-Chief in India. Great credit is also due to the military administration of your Government, to the officers of the Staff at Army Head-quarters, and to the administrative heads and executive officers of the various departments, civil and military, whose duties in circumstances of no ordinary difficulty were carried out with much success. Their acknowledgments are also due to Sir William Lockhart, whose conduct, both in the military operations and in his dealings with the tribes, has been distinguished by his usual skill, energy and judgment; to Sir Power Palmer, Major-General Bird, the late Major-General Yeatman-Biggs and Major-General Blood and Elles, and to the Brigadiers-General and other officers under their orders. Her Majesty's Government especially desire to record their high appreciation of the gallant conduct and admirable qualities of the British and native commissioned, warrant, and non-commissioned officers and privates of Her Majesty's forces engaged in this campaign.

The operations were carried on against a bold and active enemy, in a country presenting formidable difficulties to the movements of troops, and under the severest and most trying conditions of climate and exposure. That the determined opposition and extraordinary difficulties encountered were overcome in a manner which has excited universal admiration was due to the distinguished bravery, the perfect discipline, and the cheerful and resolute endurance of hardship shown by both British and native soldiers and to the gallant leading and example of their officers. Their exertions have been crowned with conspicuous success. The frontier tribes have tendered their complete submission, and peace has been established in the north-west frontier of India. Her Majesty's Government deplore the loss of so many of Her Majesty's brave soldiers, who have either fallen in action or died from the effects of field service. They especially desire to record their admiration of the gallant conduct of the detachment of the 36th Sikhs who were all killed fighting to the last in defence of the post of Saragheri.

Her Majesty's Government have noticed with much satisfaction the excellent services of the Imperial Service Troops who have fought side by side with Her Majesty's Army in this campaign and taken their full share of its hardships. Their acknowledgments are due to the Chiefs of the Native States who placed their regiments and transport trains at your disposal, and also to the native princes—His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, Major the Maharaja Rana of Dholpur, Lieutenant-Colonel the Maharaja of Kooch Behar and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Partab Singh of Jodhpur, for their personal service on the Staff in the field.

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Wei-Hai-Wei.

—o—

WE are all so interested in Wei-Hai-Wei at the present time that perhaps the following account of the transfer of the place to Britain may be of interest:—

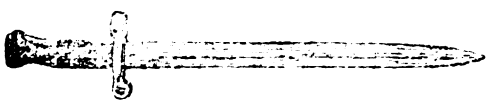
The special correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* says:—

I have been waiting here expecting to see some sort of ceremony before the Japs finally evacuated the island, but no such thing has occurred. Yesterday about twenty braves came here very quietly, and to-day at 11 o'clock the Taotai and suit came over, and were duly received at the landing by the Japanese General. The Taotai, bowing low, simply said in Chinese "Thank you." The Japanese General returned the salute very stiffly, and then the company moved off to head-quarters. Here the Japanese General handed over to the Taotai—not the keys of the fortress- but a rough plan of each of the forts now being handed back.

The whole proceedings were conducted in a remarkably silent manner, a nod of thanks as each plan was produced, and that was all. The time occupied in this business was at the most half-an-hour, and then the few remaining Japanese took to their boats and left. In the meantime, however, the *Narcissus*, which arrived here yesterday, had not been idle, for we presently saw boats landing at the West Fort, and soon a body of marines (forty-five in all) marched up and took possession of the now vacant Japanese head-quarters. The Chinese had miraculously disappeared, and I found later that they had retired to the east end of the island. We now heard firing in the harbour, and on looking out saw the *Narcissus* with the Japanese flag at the foremast firing a salute of 13 guns for the Japanese General, who had been visiting the ship, and who was now just leaving.

In the afternoon another boat came from the *Narcissus*, bringing two flag-staffs which have been erected at the West Fort, but no flags have been hoisted as yet. However, to all intents and purposes the British are in full possession, and at the chief point of landing you will meet an English (I beg pardon, British) sentry. The marines lost no time in getting to work cleaning out their temporary barracks before night-fall, during which occupation *Tommy* expressed his opinion of the place in not very choice language.

The place itself is in ruins; the Japanese must have been short of coals during the cold weather, for all the floors, doors and windows of the houses not occupied by them have been torn down for fire-wood. There are very few Chinese on the island, and no business is going on whatever, and to meander through the ruins and deserted houses is enough to give one the blues. The guns from the forts have, of course, all been removed, but the forts have not been damaged much. There was once a fine iron jetty here, which the Chinese fleet used for coaling purpose, &c.; more than half of this has been wilfully destroyed—the Japanese say by the Chinese, and *vice versa*.



A Crimean Yarn.

—o—

COLOUR Sergeant David Simpson, an old Crimean and Mutiny veteran, tells the following amusing anecdote. He says:—

I remember being on the rear-guard during the second winter in the Crimea; it was a very cold, bleak, bitter night such as we had often experienced there. The guard was commanded by Sergeant Chalmers, better known in the regiment as "*Shinnie Chalmers*," and the corporal of the guard was your humble servant. We had a worthy Highlandman as one of the guard by the name of McPherson, better known in the regiment as the "*Bruiser*." Being the duty of the corporal of the guard; I posted this men on the canteen at 9 P. M. with strict orders that he was to allow no person to enter the canteen between the hours of tattoo and the time of opening in the morning; he was to take charge of a large pile of brushwood collected by fatigue parties of the regiment for the use of the cooks, and he was to allow no person to remove any of it but the cooks or their orderlies; he was to allow no noise on his post, and to challenge all persons approaching his post from tattoo to *reveille* and allow no person to pass without giving the countersign. On this particular night the patrol was "White House," the countersign "Balaclava." About 11 P. M. the sentry heard footsteps approaching his post, and being a very dark night he could not see any person, but thinking it was the relief coming he called out "Who's that?" but no answer was given; he then came out to the open from where he had been sheltering himself, on the leeside of that pile of brushwood, shouldered his arms and came to the post and challenged. "Who comes there?" the answer was given "Rounds." "What Rounds?" "Visiting Rounds." "Stand, Visiting Rounds; advance one and give the countersign;" the officer came close up to the sentry and said "I have forgotten the countersign, but you know me; I am the officer of the day." "I cannot help that," said McPherson, "I am on sentry here with strict orders to allow no one to pass without the countersign, and if you have forgot it you will require to go back to the mess room and get it." "Call the sergeant of the guard." "I cannot do that either, as I am not allowed to make any noise on my post;" "but," says the officer, "you surely know I am no Russian or Turk I am the orderly officer, an officer of your own regiment, and an officer of your own company." "I cannot help that either, Sir," said McPherson, "not one foot past you go till you say "Balaclava!"

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Ginger James.

—o—

A spell I had to wait
Outside the barrick gate,
For Ginger James was passin' out as I was passin' in;
'E was only a recruit,
But I give 'im the salute,
For I'll never git another chance of givin' it agin!

'E'd little brains, I'll swear,
Beneath 'is ginger 'air,
'Is personal attractions, well, they wasn't very large;
'E was fust in ev'ry mill,
An' a foul-mouthed cur, but still
We'll forgive 'im all 'is drawbacks—'e 'as taken 'is discharge.

'E once got fourteen days,
For drunken, idle ways,
An' the Colonel said the nasty things that Colonels sometimes say;
'E called him to 'is face
The regiment's disgrace—
But the Colonel took 'is 'at off when 'e passed 'im by today.

For days 'e used to dwell
Inside a guard-room cell,
Where they put the darbies on 'im for a 'owlin' savage brute;
But as by the guard 'e went,
They gave 'im the present,
The little bugler sounded off the "General Salute."

The band turned out to play
Poor Ginger James away;
'Is Captain an' 'is Company came down to see 'im 'off;
An' thirteen file an' rank,
With three rounds each of blank;
An' 'e rode down on a carriage, like a bloomin' city toff.

'E doesn't want no pass,
'E's journeying first-class;
'Is trav'ling rug's a Union Jack, which isn't bad at all;
The tune the drummers play
It ain't so very gay,
But a rather slow selection from a piece that's known as "Saul."

EDGAR WALLACE.
In the "Daily Chronicle."

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The American Soldier.

—o—

Now that the United States and Spain are actually at war, it is an opportune time to learn something about the troops of the United States. In England there is little or no difficulty in finding a place at which to enlist, but in America a would-be recruit has to travel to a large city at his own expense, and the recruiting offices are only open once a fortnight. The examination is exceedingly strict. The minimum standard of height is 5 feet 9 inches as against 5 feet 4 inches in the British Army, with a chest measurement of not less than 36 inches as compared with our 34 inches. The recruit drill is conducted in a very loose fashion, and at the end of six weeks he has learnt less than the British soldier learns in one week on the square. As a matter of fact, it seems that if the American recruit gets a fair knowledge of how to keep step, to form fours, to handle his rifle after a fashion, he is considered efficient. As to battalion drill or field work, he knows absolutely nothing, and this is the reason why the American Army is so inefficient, for the moment, when it comes to actual work. There is no scheme of mobilisation, and there are instances when one company of a regiment has never been within a hundred miles of the other.

Pay-day is not as in our army once a week, but once in two months, the consequence being that at the end of the second month the drinking is rather heavy, and trouble breaks out. The great drink in America is bad whiskey at a shilling per glass, and the majority of the pay is spent in drink. It is stated that over 50 per cent. of the United States Army desert during the first year of their service, and only 30 per cent. of those who enlist remain the whole five years of the service. Discipline in the American Army is exceedingly strict; desertion, or attempted desertion, is punished by two to five years' imprisonment; and even a minor offence is punished by placing the defaulter on road-repairing or stone-breaking with a shot tied round his leg to prevent his escaping. From the above the British soldier may consider himself fortunate; in fact there can be no doubt that our "Tommy Atkins" is the best fed and best treated individual who shoulders a rifle in the defence of his country, and England has no cause to regret the care which she bestows upon her soldiers, for does she not get the finest fighting men and the best army that the world has ever seen, or will see?

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE."

Prince's Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.—Lieutenant C. W. H. Bell to be Captain.

2nd Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean to be Lieutenant, *vice* Bell promoted from 17th December 1897.

2nd Lieutenant B. A. Harvey to be Lieutenant, *vice* Pattison resigned from 27th April 1898.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Corporals.—No. 3079, Lance-Corporal A. Wallace, "B" Company, appointed orderly room clerk from 3rd June 1898, and No 4143, Lance-Corporal J. Charters, "F" Company, from 13th June 1898.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Drummers.—No. 5171, Private J. Coutts, "A" Company, No. 5328, Private J Cunningham, "D" Company.

To be Assistant Instructor, Gymnasium.—No. 4602, Lance-Corporal T. Currie, "G" Company.

To be Acting Schoolmaster, Shahjehanpur.—No. 5609, Lance-Corporal G. Rowley-Miller, "A" Company.

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Good Conduct Pay.

Granted 2d. per diem—

"B" Company.

No. 4413, Private G. Fraser. | No. 4135, Private W. Robinson.

"C" Company.

No. 4417, Private C. Brown. | No. 4388, Private C. McBride.

"D" Company.

No. 3290, Private T. Gibbons.

"F" Company.

No. 2954, Lance-Corporal J. Wilson. | No. 4430, Private W. Morrison.

No. 4442, Private W. Rae.

Granted 1d. per diem:—

"E" Company.

No. 5740, Private T. Engleby.

"F" Company.

No. 5795, Private T. McGowan.

Restored 1d. per diem—

"D" Company.

No. 4234, Private W. Edwards.

"G" Company.

No. 4792, Private G. Cunningham. | No. 4530, Private D. McDonald.

Pay of Rank.

Of Lance-Corporals—

No. 4094, Lance-Corporal E. Mitchell, "F" Company.
No. 5180, Lance-Corporal W. Cockburn, "A" Company.
No. 3557, Lance-Corporal F. Hiscock, "F" Company.

Mounted Infantry Certificate.

Served a mounted infantry course from 19th February 1896 to 24th April 1896, and granted a certificate.

No. 5120, Private J. Moffatt, "F" Company.

Employment.

To be School Assistant:—

No. 5048, Private J. Hamil, "A" Company.

Number Allotted.

No. 6572, to Private Harrison, "A" Company.

Extensions and Re-engagements.

To complete 21 years with the Colours:—

No. 3005, Sergeant A. MacDonald, "A" Company.
" 3006, " J. Ewan "C" "
" 3037, " G. Arnott "B" "
" 2529, " D. Blair "E" "
" 2571, " Drummer J. Walsh "C" "

To complete 12 years with the Colours:—

No. 3548, Private C. Greenland, "H" Company.

Musketry Prize Statements.

"H" Company.

Best Shot of Corporals and Privates:—

	£	s.	d.
No. 3146, Lance-Sergeant C. Clarke	0	15	0
" 3531, Corporal F. Marks	0	10	9
" 3144, " W. Olden	0	9	0
" 5243, Private A. Lawrie	0	8	0
" 4301, Lance-Corporal J. Gilbert	0	7	0
" 1818, Private J. Morrison	0	7	0
" 4838, " J. Halford	0	7	0

Most Improved.

No. 5148, Private H. White	0	6	3
" 4301, Lance-Corporal J. Gilbert	0	5	0
" 5089, Private A. Duncan	0	5	0
" 1128, " J. Campbell	0	5	0

Best Shot of No. 6 Practice.

No. 6051, Private P. Wilkie	0	5	3½

Best Shot of Sergeants.

No. 1529, Color-Sergeant H. W. Bush	0	10	7½

Best Shooting Section, Collective Practices, Table "B."

No. 1, Section	2	2	6

Commander of Best Shooting Section.

Color-Sergeant H. W. Bush	0	5	3½

Best Shooting Section in No. 14 Practice.

No. 4 Section	1	1	3

"F" Company.

Best Shots of Corporals and Privates.

	£	s.	d.
No. 959, Corporal J. Reid	0	12	6
" 4058, Drummer J. Buchanan	0	6	8
" 4194, Private A. Elliott	0	6	8
" 4430, " W. Morrison	0	6	8
" 5363, " R. McNie	0	6	8
" 3378, Piper F. Lynch	0	6	8
" 2430, Corporal A. Miller	0	6	8

Most Improved.

No. 4068, Private J. Hall	0	4	4½
" 5219, Lance-Corporal M. Sutherland	0	4	4½
" 4539, Private A. Riddock	0	4	4½
" 4194, " A. Elliott	0	4	4½

Best Shot of No. 6 Practice.

No. 4430, Private W. Morrison	0	4	4½

Best Shot of Sergeants.

No. 2808, Sergeant J. Soutar	0	8	9

Best Shooting Section, Collective Practices, Table "B."

No. 1 Section	1	15	0

Commander of Best Shooting Section.

Color-Sergeant H. Ditcham	0	4	4½

Best Shooting Section, No. 14 Practice.

No. 3 Section	0	17	0

"A" Company.

Best Shot of Corporals and Privates.

No. 3878, Private J. Leitch	0	18	0
" 3896, " A. Maclennan	0	12	0
" 4304, " A. Hansen	0	10	0
" 4786, Piper J. Chapman	0	8	0
" 4531, Private C. Armour	0	8	0
" 2820, Corporal A. Robb	0	6	0
" 2765, " J. Murphy	0	6	0
" 4106, Private A. Little	0	5	6

Most Improved.

No. 5373, Private T. May	0	6	0
" 5595, " A. MacAlpine	0	5	0
" 5760, " W. Riddoch	0	4	0
" 5007, " W. Wallace	0	4	0
" 3930, " W. McMaster	0	3	0
" 3852, " D. Campbell	0	2	6

Best Shot, No. 6 Practice.

No. 3896, Private A. Maclennan	0	6	1½

Best Shot of Sergeants.

No. 2516, Sergeant J. Hay	0	12	3

Best Shooting Section, Collective Practices, Table "B."

No. 1 Section	2	9	0

Commander of Best Shooting Section.

No. 1994, Color-Sergeant R. Mitchell	0	6	1½

Best Shooting Section, No. 14 Practice.

No. 1 Section	1	4	0

Recruits, 1st Party.

Best Shot of Privates.

No. 5653, Private A. J. Edwards, "B" Company	0	2	0

:O:

MARRIAGE.

Gover-McCardle.—At the Roman Catholic Chapel, Chaubattia, on the 8th June 1898, the Rev. Father Eugle-bert officiating. Schoolmaster, C. A. Gover, 93rd Highlanders, to Minnie, eldest daughter of Schoolmistress McCardle, 93rd.

DEATHS.

Easton.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjehanpur, on the 8th June 1898, No. 5602, Private J. Easton, "E" Company.

Thornton.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjehanpur, on the 20th June 1898, No. 5150, Private R. Thornton, "H" Company.

Alcorn.—At the Station Hospital, Ranikhet, on the 25th June 1898, No. 4319, Private W. Alcorn, "B" Company

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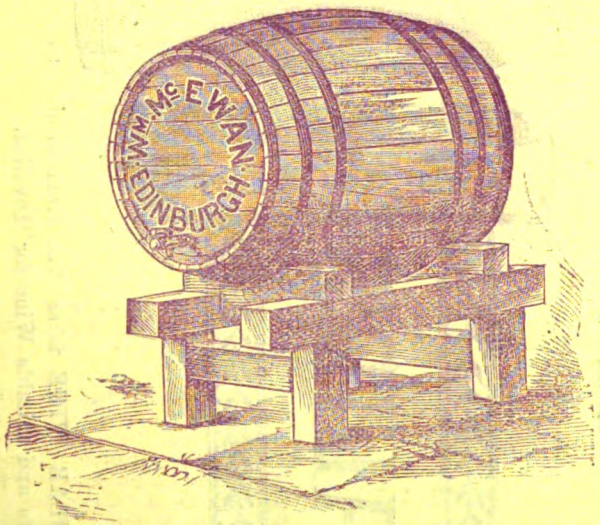

IN HOGSHEADS.

SPECIAL TERMS.

WRITE TO THE AGENTS—

CUTLER, PALMER & CO., LAHORE.

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Aug 1898

The Thin Red Line.

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N.B.—A beautiful Almanack given away to every soldier sending Home a box through us before 31st May, 1899.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 4—Vol. IV. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—AUGUST 1898. Price, 2 Annas

SKIRLS

THERE is very little to have to chronicle this time. The late month might be called a month of "gaffs" as except these relaxations a few extra parades (the battalion indulged in two a day for a short time), and last, but by no means least, the receipt of the batta, there has been nothing of any interest whatever.

* * * * * * *

Captain Aitken got a leopard not a great distance from barracks on the 9th July. This is the first of the season in the Ranikhet district we believe.

* * * * * *

A regimental dramatic troupe gave a most successful performance in the theatre on the evenings of the 13th and 14th which was deservedly well patronized. Part I consisted of a circle, followed by an original negro farce, by our old favourite Private D. C. Macgregor, which kept the house in roars of laughter from start to finish. Every thing said was up to date and of a topical nature and amused the troops tremendously.

The previous Saturday the theatre had been let to a company with an animatograph, and on the 20th "The Private Secretary" came over from Ranikhet and got a full house. The troupe in this entertainment had the assistance of several amateurs, including 2nd Lieutenants Gillatt and Webber, the former of whom as the tailor did capitally, though in that part of the play in which "Mr. Gibson" is overcome by good liquor the acting seemed hardly born of experience. Lieutenant Webber as Harry Marsland only had a small part with little opportunity of shining. The title *rôle* was an original rendering, but the body of the house was much amused throughout the piece; and the catch phrases for which the play is noted are now becoming somewhat monotonous.

* * * * * *

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The batta at Rs. 24 per smallest share was paid out during the latter part of the month, and for a week or ten days the sergeant of the guard was pretty busy, but things are beginning to assume their normal condition again.

Winter manœuvres in the hills here is the latest rumour that has taken the place of "going to Wei-hai-Wei," but it is difficult at the present time to predict the length of time that this will hold the popular fancy.

* * * * * *

There was a concert in the sergeants' mess on the evening of the 21st to speed the footsteps of Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh on his homeward journey, his tour of command having drawn to a close.

An excellent programme had been arranged and the best talent in the regiment included, the entertainment being a complete success in every respect. Colonel Fetherstonhaugh, Major Campbell and all the officers were present, and nearly all the ladies in the station. The programme was a most lengthy one, and it was still later before the last guest had departed.

* * * * * *

This was to have been followed on the next day, Thursday, by a shooting match between the Sergeants of the East Lancashire Regiment and our own, but the weather completely spoiled what otherwise gave promise of an excellent match; only about twenty minutes' shooting taking place.

Sergeants Hay and R. Miller the first to do battle for the 93rd had made, respectively, 28 and 28 against a 29 and 30 by their opponents, but this disadvantage was soon wiped out by our second pair, Sergeants Johnstone and MacDonald who were leading their men by eight points and had a shot in hand when shooting was stopped by the rain. The remainder of our eight consisted of Quartermaster-Sergeant Robertson, Sergeants Stewart (A.), Ewan and Arnott.

Previous to commencing firing an excellent repast had been assimilated in the mess room, and when the rain came down in sheets stopping the firing and washing the targets out there was no alternative but to return again to the mess (after changing) and fill in the afternoon with billiards and cards and Napier Johnstone which proved a most excellent antidote to the wet without.

An *impromptu* concert followed, and despite the determined attempt of Jupiter Pluvius to damp every one's ardour a very jolly day was spent though the road home to Ranikhet must have proved a long and troublesome one, as the rain continued with little intermission during the evening.

* * * * * *

The range being so near barracks the sergeants have been most assiduous in practice lately and the eight which had been selected to fire against the East Lancashire Sergeants had an average of 82·30 for the previous week's practice, fired under most disadvantageous circumstances, the weather being so uncertain; and with little more than four companies to select from.

Another match is arranged for the 4th instant against the Standing Camp Sergeants on their own range.

* * * * * *

With a range almost at one's door great things might be done to improve the firing of the regiment, for there are, we feel sure, in addition to the sergeants many in battalion who with a little practice could go to Meerut with a good chance of success. The Meerut meeting this year takes place about December, and it is such a short distance from Bareilly that no difficulty should be found in letting any number of competitors go there provided they have decent prospects of success. This to a great extent depends on practice and this should be easily obtainable with the ranges within such easy distance.

At the present time, too, during the wet weather, a Morris tube range would afford excellent practice and would, we feel sure, be a most popular form of sport could a suitable covered space be found in which to fit up a range.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant F. G. Newall has been appointed Station Staff Officer, Standing Camp, Ranikhet.

* * * * * *

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"C" Company have now completed their annual course of musketry up here, so the Band and some casuals only remain to fire. Sergeant Ewan and Sergeant W. Miller with 122 points each, curiously enough tie for "C" Company's "Star," and each has an equal number of bulls, centres, &c. This must be an almost unique coincidence in the musketry annals of the regiment.

* * * * * *

One of our telegraphic signallers rejoining head-quarters from the Tochi last month had a most unpleasant experience travelling on the road between Bannu and Latummur. The majority of those who went that road will remember the long sandy nullah near the latter place which in the rains is apparently flooded. The Tonga in which our man and an I. M. S. Officer were travelling at night was caught in a freshet which came on suddenly when the vehicle was in the centre of the nullah and washed all the baggage away and nearly proved fatal to the occupants,—one of the drivers was washed away and drowned,—who had a most trying time in the roaring flood and the darkness of midnight and with difficulty got to land in only a single garment.

* * * * * *

Captain Darrock has gone home to get married and should rejoin early in November.

* * * * * *

For the information of any intending Meerut goers we may mention "that kneeling" or "sitting" will in future be the position for all matches at 500 yards owing to the difficulty in classifying so many "possibles" at that distance when competitions are "lying."

* * * * * *

Lieutenant A. Elphinston has been granted an extension of his leave until November.

* * * * * *

The offer of a bounty of Rs. 77-8 to fifty men of the battalion, with between six and seven years' service, to extend for one year does not seem to have taken on as, up to the present, not one man of the head-quarter Wing has offered himself for extension. Even the additional offer of an advance of deferred pay to the amount of £7 at the present rate of exchange has had no effect. The superior inducements at present offered to men at home to return from the reserve are probably to blame for this disinclination to extend in India.

* * * * * *

The complications of the new messing scheme have been offered to us for digestion during the last month, and we all have to decide whether to come under its provisions or not by October next. There are so many points to be considered before a fair decision can be arrived at with reference to it that a hasty decision would be unjust, but certainly on the surface it seems to offer very few advantages to the soldier in India and still fewer to the non-commissioned officer. In the first place three annas is supposed to be the equivalent to three pence, which it is certainly not even at the present disadvantageous rate of exchange, the value of three pence really being three annas two pie, an advantage of two pie to the Government, a small enough amount in itself, but a loss to the soldier nevertheless. Then again this three annas is made up by the discontinuation of the nine pie daily charge for groceries, the addition to pay thus only being two and a quarter annas per day. This of course does not appear of any consequence until one considers that in the event of going on active service at some future time the "free grocery ration" would be lost; and the full three annas a day, too, would not be obtained by any one drawing compensation in lieu of rations. Then again in the event of sickness the three annas is again forfeited, not a bright look out to the man who is unfortunate enough to be an inmate of hospital for a month or two during the year, and this cannot be prevented at times by even the most careful soldier in this country. Of course for the private soldier who has over his "twelve in" and is no longer entitled to deferred pay, but who intends re-engaging to complete twenty-one years' service, it is a decided gain, but to the sergeant under similar circumstances it can hold out very little in the way of inducements, except he intend to extend to a further period than twenty-one years.

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Of course taken at its English value it is certainly an increase of pay to the amount of £ 4-11-3 and added to the gratuity to which a soldier with under twelve years is entitled to yearly makes a man £ 2-11-6 a year better off, but this amount may be easily diminished as mentioned above, for it is distinctly laid down that the allowance will not be drawn for any day for which the man is in hospital or does not draw pay.

Of course should a man do all his soldiering in cantonments, never go into hospital and never cross the frontier, he will be better off by the additional sum of £ 2-11-6 per year, and if he is a careful man he may manage to bank it and add it to his deferred pay when he leaves, but we very much doubt whether the average soldier would manage to put this amount away, and the £ 3, a year deferred pay as at present paid is we think, a far safer investment than the very mythical and elastic £ 5-11-6 offered by the new allowance.

* * * * * *

Since writing the above we have also learned that any man should he elect to come under the new regulations, *will lose 2d. a day deferred pay whilst on the reserve*, for under the present arrangements a Reservist draws 4*d.* a day, and 2*d.* a day, deferred pay, and not 6*d.* a day as generally supposed, and the deferred pay of £ 1 per annum is only granted for service with the colours. A seven-year man would thus lose £ 12 to £ 15 whilst on the reserve.

* * * * * *

There has been little or no foot-ball to speak of during the month, rain having been too continuous for anything but an occasional parade. Chaubattia rain has a nasty habit of keeping off during the morning parade hour and coming down in the proverbial *bilee* and *kütta* fashion afterwards when there is no reasonable excuse for it, though it occasionally varies the monotony by raining for the square twenty-four hours—on Thursdays.

Why is an A. T. A. bun fight like the Spanish Amrican War?

Because there are a lot of men of war (chuck a chest with your Tochi wallas) getting blown up with torpedoes.

Lieutenant-Colonel Fetherstonhaugh says farewell.

—o—

Colonel Fetherstonhaugh rejoined here on 14th July from leave of absence to Kashmir, where he had been spending his well-earned ninety days' privilege leave. On his way back he spent a few days at Shahjehanpur, inspecting and saying good-bye to the wing there.

On the morning of the 22nd he held a farewell parade at which in a few words he said good-bye to the regiment in which he had served for upwards of 28 years. Colonel Fetherstonhaugh obtained his first commission in the 93rd by purchase on the 1st September 1869; was promoted Lieutenant, 28th October 1871; Captain, 17th May 1879; Major, Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, 28th May 1884; Lieutenant-Colonel, 23rd July 1894. With the exception of a few months with the 1st Battalion in Ceylon, he passed the whole of his service with the battalion of which he has just given up the command. For some years he was musketry instructor of the regiment.

On the evening of the 22nd Colonel Fetherstonhaugh was the guest of the officers, and after the "Queen" had been drunk, Major Campbell in a short but effective speech proposed the health of the guest, referring to his long service in the regiment, to the interest he had always taken in its welfare, and to the successful manner in which he had worked to improve its efficiency. He also referred to the regret which was felt at the departure of Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh, wished them both health and good luck in the old country and further employment for the Colonel.

Colonel Fetherstonhaugh replied thanking Major Campbell for the way in which he had proposed his health and that of Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh, and hoping that we should all meet again before very long in England.

Owing to his desire to get through to Naini Tal in one day, the Colonel had to make a very early start the following morning but notwithstanding this, there was a large turn-out to say good-bye to him. It was only a few minutes after reveillé when he left the Officers' Mess, but the band and pipes were waiting outside and played him past A Company's barracks, through the bazaar, and nearly to the top of the corkscrew path, where he said good-bye to them and the Officers and Non-commissioned Officers who had come to see him off. He sailed for England on the 30th July.

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Military Dialogues.

—o—

At a Sergeants' Dance.

Interior of Sergeants' Mess, profusely decorated with bunting, the marching-past flags and the Union Jack being conspicuous. A large oleograph of Her Majesty the Queen and the Cricket and Musketry Shields are prominent features of the decoration. The floor, with the help of wax and bottles, has been rubbed into a state of sticky brilliancy. The lace curtains, put upon the windows for the occasion, are looped up with light blue ribbon, the gas jets are disguised in festoons of coloured paper. The sitting rooms of the wives of the Warrant Officers and Colour-Sergeants have been pillaged to provide comfortable chairs for the sitting out places. In the room next to the large messing room is a long table, decorated with much-sugared cakes, sandwiches made gay with parsley, and other eatables, while a small bar in a corner is the refuge for such Sergeants as do not dance, or who scorn society functions. Six men of the band in a corner of the dancing room supply the music. A set of lancers is just concluding. The Sergeant-Major, in tunic and white kid gloves, is dancing with the Colonel's wife. Most of the Captains are dancing with their Colour-Sergeants' wives, while the Colour-Sergeants are dancing with the ladies of the regiment. There is a strained feeling of extra-respectability and ultra-politeness. A young Sergeant, decorated with a large rosette, is acting as M. C.

The M. C.—Ladies' Chain. Turn your partners. No. 2 and 4 couples waltz. Turn your partners.

The Colonel's Wife.—Oh, dear me, I'm afraid I am getting into an awful muddle over this.

The Sergeant-Major *(gallantly)*.—Not at all Madam, not at all. You dance it very well, considering the little practice you have. Our ladies have a practice dance every Thursday afternoon.

The M. C.—Nos. 3 and 1 couples waltz. Turn your partners. Ladies' chain and final gallop.

The dance ended, the couples mostly promenade round and round the room.

Captain Binks *(who has been puzzling his brains to find something to say to his Colour-Sergeant's wife)*.—Jolly fine exercise, dancing lancers that way.

The Colour-Sergeant's wife.—Don't you always dance them that way?

Captain Binks.—Er—No. In fact, I don't know that we generally dance them any way at all.

Mr. Hopkins *(to Mr. Jefferies)*.—Wish all these Seniors would get out, then there might be some amusement.

Mr. Jefferies.—That's so. I'm going to have a drink with the Pioneer Sergeant.

The M. C.—Please take your partners for the Circassian Circle.

The Colonel *(who has led out the Bandmaster's wife)*.—What sort of dance is this, Mrs. Jones?

The Bandmaster's wife.—Oh, it's the easiest thing in the world. Just six bars of a waltz, then six bars of a polka, then six bars of a gallop. The music will tell you how it goes.

The Quartermaster's daughter *(who is dancing with Mr. Vavassour)*.—Were you never taught to dance, Mr. Vavassour?

Mr. Vavassour.—This ain't a dance. It's a sort of physical drill to music.

The Canteen Sergeant *(dancing with the Orderly-room Sergeant's wife)*.—It's a wonder the upper classes don't seem to be able to dance the simplest dances.

The Orderly-Room Sergeant's wife.—Whether it's ignorance or pride that makes them do it I never can decide.

The Last-joined Sub *(plunging like a two-year old)*.—It's as good as one of the jumping horses merry-go-rounds.

His Partner.—Please Sir, let us stop! You are disgracing me before all our dancing class.

The dance ends. Promenade as before.

Mr. Hopkins *(to Mr. Jefferies)*.—The old fogies don't seem inclined to go. I'm going to have a drink with the Armourer-Sergeant.

Mr. Jefferies.—I'm with you, old fellow.

The M. C.—Take your places for the Caledonians.

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THE COLONEL.—Look here, Simpson, as Adjutant you have to answer for me on all occasions. I'm engaged for this to Mrs. Hastings, the Quartermaster Sergeant's wife. You've got to do it for me and dance opposite my wife. I'm going to have a chat with the Sergeant-Major.

The band strikes up a few bars. Every body bows to everybody else, and then does a tee-to-tum turn as a sort of pipe-opener.

MR. VAVASSOUR *(after the first figure, to the Quartermaster's daughter)*.—I'm afraid I've made a bad mess of this, we only do these sort of things at Sergeants' dances.

THE QUARTERMASTER'S DAUGHTER *(freezingly)*.—The only difference I have ever been able to discover between Officers' and Sergeants' dances is that the former do *not* know how to dance; the latter do.

MR. VAVASSOUR.—Oh! I say, that's devilish hard on us.

THE M. C.—Set to partners—turn—waltz 1 and 3 cross diagonally—turn set to corners—turn—cross hands—turn—waltz.

MR. VAVASSOUR,—Thank heaven the War Office hasn't included Military dancing in the examination for A and B.

THE QUARTERMASTER'S DAUGHTER.—I think it's a great pity it hasn't.

At conclusion of dance promenade as before. The Colonel and Sergeant-Major re-appear.

THE COLONEL *(to his wife)*.—I'm afraid we must tear ourselves away now, dear.

HIS WIFE *(to the Sergeant-Major)*,—Thank you, so much for a delightful evening Sergeant-Major. Your dances are always such pleasant entertainments.

The other regimental ladies who have been keeping the corners of their eyes on the Colonel's wife, collect their husbands, and say "Good-bye to the Sergeant-Major and his wife." With their departure the feeling of restraint vanishes, and the manners of the company become less icily dignified.

MR. JEFFERIES *(to Mr. Hopkins)*.—Come along, old chap. The Colonel and his lot have gone Now we're going to enjoy ourselves.

N. N.-D.

In Man of the World.

Prologue spoken at the Opening Meeting of the Sutherland Highlanders' Association in Aberdeen.

—o—

On 25th October 1888, *"Balaclava Day."*

Comrades, yes, the name is prompted by the voice of by gone times—
Here we meet who long have wandered side by side in other climes;
Some have shared the peril and triumph when the fiery-tide of war
Rolled along Crimean Valley till it whelmed the Russian Czar;
And some the battle brunt have borne beneath a blazing heaven,
When Britain's Orient Empire reeled treason-struck in fifty-seven;
Some there are of later date with memories of less stirring days,
Whom the bugle only summoned to the field of mimic frays,—
Yet o'er us one flag hath waved, and round it as a hallowed shrine,
What memories cluster redolent of the fragrance of Lang Syne:
Many a change fraught year hath fleeted since our wandering home we made,
Wherev'r the flag we followed flew from Scottish glen to Indian glade;
Whether on Albion's plains it flapt or bent beneath the tropic rays,
Or soared to greet morn's earliest beam on the snow clad Himalayas;
Ours to guard it, ours to love it, symbol of our hope and home,
All our thoughts and feelings flowing where it bade us rest or roam.
Tracing back the track of years, bid fancy slip her magic slide,
Fleets of two proud realms allied see upon the eastern tide;
Cannon roaring, bayonets flashing far along the rugged shore,
Here St. George's Standard flying, there the brilliant Tri-color;
In the van are Highland Bonnets, dark against the mid-day beam,
On the heights the Russian hosts—here Alma's ever famous stream;
Charge, and lo, the heights are won, and you, and you may tell the rest,
The Russians to Sebastopol, the Highlanders upon the crest.
Now another morn arises, and another deed demands,
Praise thro' all the widening ages, fame thro' all the wondering lands;
Balaclava's deathless story, flower of all the fields of war,
Shines in Poet's glowing pages, Valour and Devotion's star;
Gleams again upon your memory all its glory, all its grief,
Mellowing in the light that lies upon life's yellowing leaf;
Heroic charge of English horsemen, proudly dashing to their death,

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Whirlwind rush of Cossack spearmen, Colin's glance and voice of faith;
"Hence no retreat, die where you stand," the conquering valleys peal,
And in History's record ever lives, "The Red Line fringed with steel."
Fades the vision, seasons circle; and again the trumpets calls;
Highland claymores gather round beleagured Lucknow marble halls;
"Save your brethren, women, children, Havelock's brave devoted band"—
His the voice beloved last heard upon the fretful Euxine's strand;
By the record of the direful deeds that Delhi writ in gore,
And the memories sad and sacred of the martyred of Cawnpore;
To your arms fresh strength was given, to your breasts valour came,
For deliverance of our people and the glory of your name.
Sequel of those deeds that rescued Christian life from heathen ire,
Once again see Lucknow's temples girdled with the battle fire;
Yours the star that ruled the fate and fortunes of that crowning day,
Fair and famous in your annals thirty chequered years away;
Rising o'er the din of arms that urged the triumph of the fight,
Hark, the pibroch's note defiant, turning danger to delight,
There, thro' all the surging strife, beneath the bullets' deadly hail
His mountain pipe our brave Macleod bade pour its stirring strain.
The "Clansmen's Gathering," by the gates of Brahmas hoary fanes;
Thirty summers now have vanished since the days that come not back.
Many a comrade of the camp has parted from life's bivouac;
Some in battle stricken down when all the ranks were wrapt in smoke,
Having done their duty, died at the word that duty spoke;
Some by pestilence have perished, passing silent from our side,
Far among the lonely hills that Cabul's winding waves divide;
Some by sore sickness sinking soon as the sword was laid away.
Hoping for an hour of dreamful rest ere closed their deedful day;
Many a hand is mouldering dust whose kindly clasp we yet recall
Echoes many voice, long mute, within our memory's citadal;
Not unremembered, then, be those companions in the great campaigns,
Who with you marched and toiled and fought, shared your pleasures, soothed your pains,
Those, too, who divided far from us by mount or stream or sea
Still wake to greet the same glad sun that shines on you and me;
By the names of all the leaders at whose side we've proudly stood,
By the perils and pleasures shared in olden days of comradehood;
By the reconciling years that bear us to the great beyond,
We would closer draw the linking of the unforgotten bond;
Grateful for the years that lapsing leave us yet some little good
Ever mindful of the ties that time and trial have withstood;
Loyal ever to the true, loyal to the land we love.
Labouring here while daylight lasts, yet looking even more above!

ALEXANDER LOGIE.

—:o:—

Boxing Competition at Ranikhet.

—o—

OUR MAN WINS THE MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

Last month one or two sporting members of the East Lancashire Regiment conceived the happy idea of getting up a boxing contest, open to the Ranikhet garrison which was on July 23rd brought to a successful conclusion. On July 21st the Preliminary Rounds were "knocked" off, subjoined being the results, but I am unfortunately unable to give any details, not having been present, polo that day claiming my attention until too late.

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS.

Light Weights.

Pte. Edwards, East Lancashire Regiment, beat Pte. Slavin, 2nd Derby Regiment.
Ptc. Butler, 2nd Derby Regiment, beat Ptc. Henry, 93rd Highlanders.

Middle Weights.

Pte. Bates, 2nd Derby Regiment beat Pte. Cooper, 93rd Highlanders.
Pte. Buckley, 2nd Derby Regiment, beat Pte. Hennie 93 d Highlanders.
Lce.-Corpl. Marklew, 93rd Highlanders, beat Pte. Wooley,, 2nd Derby Regiment.
Pte. Boyle, 2nd Derby Regiment, beat Pte. Newman, East Lancashire Regiment.
Pte. Law, East Lancashire Regiment, a bye.

Regarding the finals I am better able to give an opinion, being present as an arbitrator. In spite of R. G. Allanson-Winn's (author of "Boxing") sound remark: "If you ever want to get into the black books of half your boxing acquaintances, and make a few enemies for life take to judging"!) I was glad to see representatives of the 93rd down from Chaubattia, in the East Lancashire Theatre, to put on the gloves; and it was most unfortunate that Private Stedams was incapacitated by an accident from appearing the second evening. In the Heavy Weights, Private Dooney (Cameronians) best Private Tongue (5th Dragoon Guards) in the first heat; in the final eventually meeting Private Allen (93rd), Dooney winning somewhat easily, being quite a head taller than Allen, and having almost six inches the longer reach. There was a suspicion amongst the judges that the contest might have been taken rather more seriously, as the "sparring" (save the mark!) tended to demonstrate that the combatants had agreed as to the disposal of the

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prize, before entering the ring. However, let us hope that this was not the case.

In the Middle Weights, in the first heat Private Boyle (Derbyshire Regiment) beat Private Law (East Lancashire Regiment), Lance-Corporal Marklew (93rd) sparred a bye, which was not only well fought, but also was most amusing, Marklew being quite a wit in the ring.

In the final, Boyle met Marklew, but after a couple of counters, Marklew found the "Mark," knocking Boyle out, who not coming to within the prescribed limit thus lost the contest.

In the Light Weights Private Edwards (East Lancashire Regiment) met Private Butler (Derbyshire Regiment); this proved an exciting bout, Edwards winning the first round, Butler got even by pulling off the second, but Edwards after a good fight eventually won by securing the third.

The event of the evening was a match for Rs. 25 a side between Private Robson (East Lancashire Regiment), who won the Aldershot Light Weight Championship last year, and Private Bates (Derbyshire Regiment) now at the Standing Camp.

Both were exceedingly smart boxers, but Robson appeared in slightly better training, as well as being a heavier man; Bates was very quick, however, and knew how to use his feet and the order of things might have been reversed if he had got in the "undercut" occasionally, for which many openings were given. Up to the sixth round the match was most exciting, each man winning a round alternately, but from then Robson's superior condition told, he winning the match by securing the last four rounds in succession. The contest was quite worth watching, both men having more than the average knowledge of the "double tap," and after taking this and the plucky fight made by Private Bates into consideration a special consolation prize was unanimously awarded by the Committee.

In closing this short account of a most enjoyable and instructive evening, let me add that now the ice has been broken, it is to be hoped there will be many more boxing competitions, and that this one may have given a fresh impetus to the apparently dying popularity in the 93rd Highlanders of the noble art of self-defence. C. A. H. M.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D. B. & OTHERS—*Lays of Ind* is probably the book you alluded to not *Lies of Ind*, though there may certainly be sufficient tall stories circulating about this coral strand to make a work under the latter title a possibility even extending to a few volumes.

Corporal's Chat.

—o—

During the last few weeks the Corporals of the head-quarter's Wing have "put a spring" in it, and, what is more to the point, mean to keep it up, and according to all reports, things will go with a "bang."

A foot-ball team has been formed, composed of the following non-commissioned officers :—

"A" Company—Lance-Corporals Wilson, Rafferty and Jamieson.

"B" Company—Lance-Corporals Hudgston and Adcock.

"C" Company—Corporal J. Watson and Lance-Corporals McDonald and Johnson.

"D" Company—Corporal G. Watson and Lance-Corporals Gardner, Houston and Daniel.

The team includes three regimental players and a sprinkling of second eleven men, while Lance-Corporal Benson (another of last year's regimental team who is at present "rusticating" at Shahjehanpur) will make the half back line the strongest in the battalion, *viz.*, Lance-Corporals Johnson, Wilson and Benson. Three matches have already been played two being won and one lost. The first against, "C" Company resulted in a win for the "Non-Coms." by three goals to one, and the second against a team of the wing was lost by two goals to one. The latter was played under adverse conditions, the pitch being submerged to the extent of several inches, the result of many days rain, but with the ground in condition the Corporals fancy their chance against the best team in Chaubattia. The third match which was against the Standing Camp was won in hollow style by three goals to *nil*. Within thirty seconds of the start the ball literally walked through their opponents' goal, and in the space of a couple more minutes the score stood two up. A third goal was registered within the first quarter of the game, but from the point our team fell away. Taken on the whole the form displayed in all the matches was "class," the combination of forwards being the one standing feature.

* * * * * *

A Shooting Club has also been started, Corporal Robb having been appointed Captain. As the funds of the Club require "building up," there are no prospects of a match in the immediate future, probably not until a return to the plains.

By kind permission of Major Campbell, the Corporals have been allowed the use of the billiard room on Wednesday evenings between the hours of 9 and 11. The cannons are mostly the "hurricane" order, but an appearance at the "green table" once a week does not seem to have any terrors for them.

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Frae Glesca.

—o—

To Pte. Duncan Macgillivray, 93rd Highlanders, India.

Dear Duncan, o' the "93,"
Ma guid an' trusty cronie;
Tho' mony miles across the sea,
As frien'—ye're first o' ony.
Ye dinna ken hoo prood I feel
Whene'er you sen' a letter;
It mak's me jump' frae heid tae heel
Wi' joy—I'm no' richt better.
I've read a' thro' the *Thin Red Line*,
It stirs ilk Scottish he'rt:
Like your auld corps—it aye will shine,
An' play a noble pairt.
The "Dabbie" sen's his love tae ye;
He ne'er forgets yon nicht
When puddin's het an' barley bree
Were scattered left an' richt.
An, Malcolm—aye yer true-blue frian'—
Wi' chums frae faur an' near,
A' drank yer health, on Hallowe'en,
In "good old glorious beer."
Hoo's a' the praw praw Hielan'men
O' the brave auld "93"?
May ilka ane return again
Tae Scotia, the free.
For mony a lass in Glesca toon
Does weary unco sair,
An' wishes that her kilty loon
Was squeezin' her ance mair.
But, Duncan lad, ne'er fash yer heid—
When ye come mairchin' hame
O' tattie scones ye'll hae a feed,
An' change your lassies's name.
Then, up oor glasses we'll hae fill't,
For nocht we'll gie a damn—
We'll dicht the glabber frae her's kilt.
An' hae a Hielan' dram.
I'll noo conclude, but, Duncan, min'
For lass an' hame ne'er worry—
Sae here's "neesh neeshtt for auld lang syne,
Yours truly, Wullie Murray.

—— ——: o :——

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

That tae "strautt au stray" is at times a dangerous amusement.

That it heard a certain non-commaissioned officer say "he was up to the *eyes* and knees in muck." Did he walk on his heid.

That the Battie cam' at last.

That thank guidness it was nae waur.

That walkin' up and down the square wis quite a popular amusement for a short time.

That at any rate the battie wis useful tae some.
That the sairgents cudna' hae seen much o' it.
That it hopes the monsoons 'ull no be long before thinkin' o' gein'.
That they spoiled what might hae been a guid shoot.
That the wing sairgents can put a guid enouch team in the field.
That practice makes perfect.
That there hae been a guid many "gaffs" this month.
That "Cockies" show wis a'richt ony way.
That it would like tae see a few mair as guid.
That he should gie us a few mair afore he goes away.
That the topical hits wis awfu' guid.
That the last bounty doesna' seem to take ony awa.'
That it expects not a few is markin' time on gettin' home first.
That the men wha took the last bounty hae been pleasantly surprised.
That some o' the T. E. men are thinkin' a'ready about packin' up.
That a few usefu' men will be gaein' awa' this year warse "luck."
That the "Thin Yin" will be gae sorry to lose twa' at ony rate.
That it will seem unco' strange wi'out the "Plunger."
That nae dout the "Auld wife" 'all be gledsome tae see her 'Jock' at hame aince mair.
That it hopes he'll send a screed noo an' again.
That, Do you know————('Don't want to—Ed.).
That the Jeff wis takin' a few tips.
That there might be a chance o' a job in the shop.

—— ——: o :——

Regimental Gazette

Promotions.

To be Quartermaster Sergeant.—No. 1938, Colour-Sergeant L. Robertson, from 21st January 1898.

To be Colour-Sergeant.—No. 2519, Sergeant W. Smith, "D" Company, dated 21st January 1898.

To be Sergeant.—No. 3692, Lance-Sergeant W. G. Stonor, "B" Company, dated 4th April 1898; No. 3146, Lance-Sergeant C. Clarke, "H" Company, dated 1st July 1898.

To be Corporals.—No. 3808, Lance-Corporal J. Allison, "A" Company, dated 13th June 1898; No. 4301, Lance-Corporal J. Gilbert, "H" Company, dated 1st July 1898.

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Pay of Rank.

To be Lance-Sergeant.—No. 3610, Corporal J. Stobbie, "G" Company, dated 22nd April 1898; No. 3306, Corporal A. Lockie, dated 1st July 1898.

To be paid Lance-Corporals.—No. 4290, Lance-Corporal J. Duff, "D" Company, dated 6th August 1898; No. 4108, Lance-Corporal G. Blackmore, "E" Company, dated 13th June 1898; No. 5115, Lance-Corporal R. Jamieson, "G" Company, dated 1st July 1898.

Granted 1st Class Certificates of Education.

Dated 29th March 1898.

No. 1938, Colour-Sergeant L. Robertson, "E" Company.
No. 3710, Private W. Billings, "G" Company.

Company Transfers.

No. 3808, Corporal J. Allison, "A" to "D" Company.
„ 2519, Colour-Sergeant W. Smith, "D" to "E" Company.

Appointments.

To be Pay Sergeant of "F" Company.—No. 624, Sergeant P. Campbell.

To be Assistant Armourer to Wing.—No. 3769, Private J. Salmons, "F" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5079, Private D. McGillivray, No. 5254, Private W. Stewart, No. 5005, Private S. McDermott and No. 5493, Private J. Hudgston, "B" Company, dated 12th July 1898; No. 5589, Private J. McLaren, No. 5697, Private P. McDonald, "G" Company, dated 18th July 1898; No. 3123, Private W. Johnson, "C" Company (while Assistant Signalling Instructor), dated 27th July 1898; No. 4295, Private A. Keeble, "H" Company, dated 29th July 1898.

Recruits Joined.

Taken on the strength of Battalion and posted to "A" Company, dated 8th July 1898:—

Boy Claude Dunne ... Boy Eric Dunne.

Lower Standard, Hindustani.

The following have passed in Part I:—
No. 4403, Lance-Corporal R. Frew, "G" Company.
„ 4684, Private C. Bennie, "G" Company.
Passed in Part II:—
No. 4798, Private A. Dale, "A" Company.

Good Conduct Pay.

Granted 1*d.* per diem—

"E" Company.

No. 5842, Lance-Corporal Glass, 28-7-98.

"F" Company.

No. 5120, Private J. Moffatt, 7-6-98.
„ 5833, „ J. Gallagher, 15-7-98.
„ 5789, „ C. Hearn, 8-7-98.
„ 5837, „ W. Lawrence, 28-7-98.
„ 5841, „ J. Brown, 24-7-98.
„ 4800. „ W. Moran, 28-7-98.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENTS.

"D" Company.

Best shots of Corporals and Privates—

		£.	s.	d.
No. 5116, Private A. McDonald		0	13	0
„ 4163, „ W. Minnell...		0	10	0
„ 3899, „ E. McCulloch		0	8	0
„ 5294, „ J. Stevenson		0	7	0
„ 4287, „ J. Boyle		0	6	0
„ 4373, „ J. McFarlane		0	5	0
„ 4342, „ J. Trotter		0	5	0

Most Improved—

	£	s.	d
No. 5248, Private J. Orr	0	6	0
„ 4028, „ W. Martin	0	5	0
„ 4977, „ W. Connell	0	4	0
„ 3823, „ T. Brown	0	3	0

Best Shot of Sergeants—

Colour-Sergeant T. Chaplin	0	9	0

Best Shot at No. 6 Practice—

No. 4770, Private J. Collins	0	4	6
Best Shooting Section, Collective Practices, No. 1 Section	1	16	0
Commander of Section, Colour-Sergeant Chaplin	0	4	6
Best Shooting Section No. 14 Practice, No. 4 Section	0	18	0

"E" Company.

Best Shots of Corporals and Privates—

No. 4841, Corporal J. Ogg	0	16	0
„ 3628, „ F. Poole ("G" Company)	0	12	0
„ 4019, Lance-Corporal T. Birkenshaw ...	0	10	0
„ 4983, „ „ M. Rutherford ...	0	8	0
„ 4603, Private D. Brown	0	6	6
„ 4876, Drummer W. Malcolm	0	5	0
„ 4765, Private J. Patterson	0	4	9

Most Improved—

No. 4706, Drummer G. Bain	0	6	0
„ 4019, Lance-Corporal T. Birkenshaw ...	0	4	0
„ 4765, Private J. Patterson	0	4	0
„ 3688, „ C. Hewson	0	3	9
„ 4505, „ G. Barnes	0	3	0

Best Shot of Sergeants—

	s.	d.
No. 3116, Sergeant W. R. Weller	0 10	4½

Best Shot at No. 6 Practice—

No. 4428, Corporal G. Ballantyne	0 5	2½

Best Shooting Section, Collective Practice, Attached Section 2 1 7

Commander of Best Shooting Section—

No. 2479, Corporal D. Gordon...	0 5	2¼

Best Shooting Section No. 14 Practice—

No. 2 Sub-Section	1	0	9

"G" Company.

Best Shot of Corporals and Privates—

No. 4567, Lance-Corporal D. Inglis	0	15	0
„ 5387, Private J. McLaren	0	10	9
„ 4131, „ J. Hindmarsh	0	9	0
„ 4292, „ R. Stirratt	0	8	0
„ 4806, Corporal J. Hearn	0	7	0
„ 4275, Private C. Millis	0	7	0
„ 4602, Lance-Corporal T. Currie	0	7	0

Most Improved—

No. 6133, Lance-Corporal J. Roberts ...	0	7	1
„ 5258, Private P. Carson	0	7	1
„ 5279, „ W. Andrews	0	7	1
„ 4232, „ T. Doyle	0	5	4

Best Shot of Sergeants—

No. 2956, Sergeant G. Gunn	0	10	8

Best Shot No. 6 Practice—

No. 4232, Private G. Doyle	0	5	4

Best Shooting Section, Collective Practices and No. 14 Practice, Attached Section ... 3 5 9

Commander of Best Shooting Section—

No. 3151, Sergeant Stubbs	0	5	0

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Sept. 1898

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The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 5—Vol. IV. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—SEPTEMBER 1898. PRICE, 2 ANNAS.

SKIRLS

IN accordance with what has apparently become an established custom, our 1st Battalion's recruiting detachment has been making its annual tour through Argyllshire. This year the party was of much larger dimensions than on former occasions, and it is to be hoped it will meet with some success. The following short account of the march through the Western Shire we take from a Scottish paper :—

THE ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS' MARCH.—The detachment of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, numbering over 200 officers and men, under Major Patterson, which left Glasgow on Monday last on a march through the country of Argyll, arrived at Oban on Saturday afternoon. The detachment camped on Monday at Lochgilphead, on Tuesday at Kilmartin, on Wednesday at Kilmelfort, and on Thursday and Friday nights at Kilninver, about eight miles from Oban. On Friday the detachment, accompanied by the band and pipers of the regiment, marched from Kilninver to Easdale, and spent the greater part of the day there, giving a display of physical drill and bayonet drill during their visit, as they had also done at all the other halting places. They returned to camp at Kilninver after five o'clock. They left Kilninver at ten o'clock on Saturday morning, and arrived shortly after noon at Mossfield Park in Glencruitten, where they camped till Monday, when they left and continued their march to Bonewe, 13 miles from Oban, their route being through the town and by Dunstaffnage and Connel. At Connel Ferry a halt was made, and the men were entertained to refreshments by Major Gostwyck Garde, formerly of the 93rd, or Second Battalion of the regiment. On arrival at Bonawe the soldiers were entertained by Mrs. Cameron Campbell of Inverawe. Contingents were afterwards despatched from the main body and sent for recruiting purposes to Islay, Mull, and Ballachulish. The only untoward incident of the march was an accident by which one of the privates in charge of a baggage waggon got his leg broken, while trying to control the baggage horses, which had got restive.

* * * * * *

There were sports at the Standing Camp on Thursday 25th, in which two events, the Mile and Khud races, were open, the second prizes in both cases coming to Chaubuttia. The weather, as could only be expected, was most unsettled, and the ground in very bad condition. Private Mossman, "B" Company, in addition to being second in the Mile, was awarded the prize for the best-dressed competitor. Our band and

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pipes marched down and played at intervals during the sports.

* * * * * *

Major Napier has gone away on leave until the 10th November, and the command of the Left Wing will devolve upon Captain McNeill.

* * * * * *

Lieutenant H. H. G. Hyslop has been granted an officer's Extra Musketry Certificate from the School of Musketry, Pachmarhi, and Sergeant J. Blair has also secured the Warrant and N.-C. O. Certificate. Colour-Sergeant Chaplain is away to join the new class commencing this month.

* * * * * *

We are gradually making our small books more interesting and readable. Under the headings "Campaigns," of all those who served with the Tochi Field Force, is to be entered "North-West Frontier of India, 1897-98, Tochi."

* * * * * *

We have received a few additions to our numbers during the present month, some thirty or forty men from the Standing Camp having been transferred to us. These include most of our football players who were there, which has naturally resulted in the Standing Camp team being considerably weakened.

* * * * * *

A team of ours managed to win the Five-a-side football tournament at the Standing Camp, the finals of which were decided during the month. Our detachment there found two teams, "B" team being the victors over a Derby Regiment team by 2 goals to *nil*.

* * * * * *

This last month has been as productive of news as the majority of its immediate predecessors, which is to say—*nil*. In fact, it has, if anything, been somewhat worse off, for we have had so few rumours to break the monotony. There was only one of any importance, *viz.*, "Hill manœuvres," which has been current for a long time, and is not unlikely to prove more or less reliable, for according to present arrangements we are to go out about the 1st October for a fortnight or three weeks to practise hill fighting.

In the meantime "B" and "C" Companies have been practising hill fighting on their own account, the military training of these two companies having been in progress during the month. There is some pretty rough country round Chaubattia for carrying out this exercise, and the monsoons have added to the service conditions of the training considerably, resulting in pretty frequent wettings.

* * * * * *

The band and casuals have, despite the weather, just finished their Musketry with, comparatively speaking, very fair results, the average being 84. The best shot of the party is Sergeant R. Miller, "G" Company, with a score of 128. There are in all seventeen marksmen in the party.

* * * * * *

Things have been quite lively in the Tochi again. A party of coolies road-making near Kanirogha the other day were attacked by some supposed Khostwals, who killed seven outright and wounded seventeen, the friendly Waziris in the levy post close at hand making no attempt to protect the road makers. Kanirogha is situated north of the Tochi river, between Boya and Dattakhel, and, it will be remembered, we spent three days there returning from the last Khaza column after the surrender of Sadda Khan at Inzar Kach and the jirga at Ismail Khel.

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We can get very little news of the wing at Shahjahanpur, though occasionally news of sorts filters through to us. There has been a good bit of cricket, we hear down there, and there appears to be some excellent *shikar* within a reasonable distance, one small party of sportsmen from the wing getting a bag of seven buck, two boars and an alligator, with any amount of small game, during a seven-days' shooting trip. A drummer correspondent has favoured us with an account of an outing which we publish on another page.

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Our old friends the Border Regiment from Quetta are to relieve the Derbys at Bareilly this cold weather, and as they were in Waziristan in

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1894-95, we shall have the pleasure of comparing notes about Tochi in the course of a few months or so.

* * * * * *

An appreciable improvement may be expected shortly in our musketry averages, as there is voluntary firing on the range every Thursday afternoon for forty men of the wing. Few better ways than this could be chosen for spending the weekly holiday, and it is only a great pity that we have had so many wet Thursdays lately. Consistent practice is sure to make a difference in the shooting of the battalion, and practice of any description is not always possible for the private soldier, though it is, if possible, more necessary now than ever with the shortened musketry course that a duty man now fires, and the higher figure of merit expected. The introduction of a Morris tube range in which practice would be possible no matter what the weather would still be a greater improvement, added to the facility it would give for instructing really indifferent shots; and we feel sure a Morris tube shooting gallery would be most popular and well patronised were one introduced in the battalion.

* * * * * *

We publish this cutting from an Aberdeen paper:—

With the death of Mr. Archibald Patterson, which occurred on Sunday, the four heroes of the "Thin Red Line" resident in Aberdeen have been reduced to three. The deceased was born sixty-eight years ago in the parish of South Leigh, and enlisted on April 14, 1848, at the age of 17½ years, in the 93d Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He subsequently passed through the Crimean War, the Indian Mutiny, and the Frontier campaign. He served altogether 21 years, 27 days, and for upwards of twelve years he was engaged in foreign service. He was one of the "Thin Red Line" under Sir Colin Campbell, and again he followed the same leader in the Indian Mutiny. Mr. Patterson did not pass through these fierce fights scatheless, for he was wounded at Alma. His heroism, in common with that of his regiment, did not go unrewarded, however, and he received the Crimean medal and three clasps for Alma, Sebastopol and Balaclava. He was also decorated with the Turkish medal, the Indian Frontier medal and the clasp for Umbeyla; and was rewarded with the good conduct medal and gratuity, which he received in 1870 and 1874 after being discharged on 26th October, 1869. Mr. Patterson, who was married, is survived by seven sons and four daughters, four of whom, including the eldest, Mr. Archibald Patterson, the Well of Spa Bar, were born in India.

* * * * *

The grant of the medal for the Frontier has just reminded us that at Bareilly, soon after our return from Tochi, Lance-Sergeant Johnstone, "B" Company, was presented with the Chitral Medal which he had earned when with the Relief Force in 1895 in the Transport Department. Private E. Blythe, who was then a Gordon, also received the Chitral Medal at the same time.

* * * * * *

The following extracts from the *London Gazette* are published:—

"Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Fetherstonhaugh on completion of his period of service in command of a battalion is placed on half-pay."

"The undermentioned Lieutenant-Colonels on half-pay to be Colonels:—

"J. D. Fetherstonhaugh"

"Major G. L. J. Goff to be Lieutenant-Colonel, *vice* Fetherstonhaugh."

* * * * *

Lieutenant-Colonel Goff obtained his first commission in the 91st Highlanders on the 10th March 1875. Was promoted Captain 1st July 1884, and Major 21st September 1892. He served with the 91st in the Zulu War of 1879 and was present in the action of Gingindlova and at the relief at Ekowe, for which he received the medal and clasp. He was for five years Adjutant of a volunteer regiment in Staffordshire.

* * * * *

It is presumed that Captain Wolrige-Gordon will be promoted Major and posted to this battalion as we are short of a Major—a condition, by the way, which we have been in ever since Major Dick Cunyngham left India to take up the appointment of second-in-command of the 1st Battalion.

* * * * *

Captain David Henderson, 1st Battalion, has gone out to Egypt as A. D. C. to Brigadier-General Hon'ble H. G. Lyttelton, C.B., Commanding the 2nd Brigade of the force advancing on Khartoum.

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Major Napier has gone to Kashmir on ninety days' leave; Captain McNeill is now commanding at Shahjahanpur.

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Lieutenant Johnston-Stewart is expected to leave England on 3rd September, on the expiration of his extended leave on medical certificate. It was understood that he was going to transfer or exchange to the 1st Battalion, but apparently this is not so.

* * * * *

Our new Commanding Officer expects to leave England on 27th August and to be here about the middle of September. Mrs. Goff accompanies him.

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Including the inspection of the Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General for Musketry, we have now enjoyed, or otherwise, inspections since the beginning of the year, having been inspected by Brigadier-General Egerton at Boya, Brigadier-General Brooke at Miranshah, Brigadier-General Clifford at Bareilly, Lieutenant-General Sir Baker Russell at Bareilly and Chaubattia, and Major-General Evans at Chaubattia. We are now expecting visits from Brigadier-General Bruce and the Inspector of Signalling and Gymnastics. There will be a new Lieutenant-General and probably a change in the command of the district before the end of the year—so more inspections may be before us.

* * * * *

We have received from Messrs. Gordon & Co., of Bombay two coloured Almanacs for 1899, which have been placed in the Coffee Shop for inspection. The pictures represent two stirring incidents in military history in both of which the Gordons have been the heroes, and any soldier who may be sending a box home through Messrs. Gordon this trooping season is allowed to select one of these pictures to remind him of his service in India. Messrs Gordon was originally the firm of McAfee and Gordon and their present address is the Fort, Bombay.

* * * * *

On the 4th ultimo, in answer to an invitation from the Standing Camp, our Sergeants journey to Ranikhet to try conclusions on the range there.

The monsoons having still shown no inclination to make anything but a temporary break, the weather was still unsettled, but fortunately, except for an occasional short shower, there was nothing to complain about, and the shooting match was able to be decided, and after this there was even time for a game of football. A great contrast to the match the previous month at Chaubattia against the East Lancashire Sergeants, when rain made shooting out of the question.

The day being a holiday, our party from Chaubattia left about 10 o'clock and arrived at Deolikhet, the vernacular name for the Standing Camp, before 11. Tracks were at once made for the range, which was a good stiff walk from the barracks, contrasting most unfavourably with our own handy range at Chaubattia; situated on a ridge too, it caught the full blast of a stiffish wind, and added to this there was the disadvantage of firing down hill. Like most hill ranges too, the longer distances were not reliable, and the ranges wanted a good bit of "finding," as not a few of our marksmen found. Firing commenced almost at once, and our men held the advantage from the first, leaving 200 yards with a score of against 217 by the Standing Camp. At 500 yards the advantage was still further increased, and when the last shot was fired and the scores totalled, it was found our Sergeants were victorious by 43 points. The following were the scores:—

93rd HIGHLANDERS.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergeant J. Hay	28	34	31	93
,, A. MacDonald	28	32	31	91
,, R. Miller	26	34	30	90
Quarter-Master Sergt. L. Robertson	31	27	27	85
Lance-Sergeant C. Johnstone	33	25	26	84
Colour-Sergeant R. Mitchell ...	29	24	29	82
Sergeant G. Arnott	30	27	24	81
,, J. Ewan	29	26	25	80
Total ...	234	229	223	685

STANDING CAMP.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergeant Mercer (Derby Regiment)	28	33	26	87
Colour-Sergeant. Saddington (Derby Regt.)	29	33	25	87
Sergeant Soutar (93rd Highlanders)	29	27	30	86
,, Evans (D. C. L. I.) ...	27	29	28	84
,, Howard (Derby Regiment)	28	28	23	79
,, Ambrose (D. C. L. I.)	28	28	20	76
Colour-Sergeant Gilley (D. C. L. I.)	26	25	23	74
Sergeant. Georgei(Derby Regiment)	22	24	24	70
Total ...	217	297	199	643

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An excellent meal followed the shooting, and then to fill in the afternoon a football match was arranged, which resulted in the Standing Camp again being second best to the tune of eight goals to two. A Smoking Concert in the Mess concluded the day's enjoyment, the health of the Standing Camp being drunk with Highland Honors as a Grand Finale.

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The following is the troopship programme for the ensuing season :—

The *Nubia* arrives at Bombay on the 30th September with the 2nd Battalion, Gordon Highlanders, and leaves on the 7th October with the 1st Battalion, Gordon Highlanders.

The *Simla* arrives on the 7th October with 8 squadrons of the 3rd Hussars and No. 29 Company, Southern Division, R. A., and leaves on the 14th idem for England *via* South Africa with the 18th Hussars.

The *Dilwara* arrives on the 9th November with D Battery, R. H. A., and the 12th Field Battery, R. A., and leaves on the 16th idem with No. 16 Company, Western Division, R. A., and the Derbyshire Regiment for Aden; taking from Aden No. 21 Company, Southern Division, R. A., and the 2nd Battalion, Manchester Regiment.

The *Dunera* arrives on the 19th November with the 56th and 58th Field Batteries, R. A., and leaves on the 26th idem with N Battery, R. H. A., and the 10th Field Battery, R. A.

The *Nubia* arrives on the 1st December with Drafts, and leaves on the 8th idem with the 26th and 59th Field Batteries, R. A.

The *Simla* arrives on the 26th December with one squadron 3rd Hussars and the 1st Battalion Royal Warwickshires, and leaves on the 3rd January with details.

The *Dilwara* arrives on the 6th January with drafts and leaves on the 13th idem with details.

The *Dunera* arrives on the 10th January with drafts, and leaves on the 26th idem with No. 28 Company, Southern Division, R. A., and the 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles.

The *Nubia* arrives on the 3rd February with drafts and leaves on the 10th idem with details.

The *Simla* arrives on the 24th February with drafts and leaves on the 3rd March with details.

The *Dilwara* arrives on the 11th March with drafts, and leaves on the 18th idem with details.

The *Dunera* arrives on the 18th March with drafts, and leaves on the 25th idem with details.

OH THAT BATTA!—"Now," shouted an Orderly Sergeant into one of "Q" Company bungalows the other day, "all those attending the Sutherland Dance to-night to give their names to the Orderly Sergeant to-morrow in half an hour's time."

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Our Bivandieres.

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A TRUE TALE OF THE RESERVE FORCES.

"THE way was long, the wind was cold," and the volunteer corporal, if not infirm, was old. He wore a uniform of faded grey, and had evidently worn it much. He had a stoop of the shoulders, a twist of the knees, and a rifle at the "slope."

There were a few dark hairs in his whiskers, and there was a twinkle in his eye. The twinkle stopped me as I was passing, and made me fall into step besides its owner.

"Well, corporal, here you are, ready to serve your country?"

"Right, sir; put me comfortably behind a hedge, and I could pot a few Rooshuns. But I ain't up to much knockin' about."

"You are our old volunteer, I fancy?"

"Among the oldest there is, Sir. I've had eighteen years on it."

"And some queer experiences no doubt?"

"Ah! I believe you, and if you don't mind waiting till I've oiled my tongue with a pint of old and bitter at the Dead Shot yonder, you shall hear the rummest on 'em."

The lubrication duly performed with, at my suggestion, something considerably more "short" than old and bitter, we resumed our march, and the corporal began his story.

"Volunteering years agone was not what it is now. Then we did pretty much as we liked, and we liked to do some very odd things. Our uniforms were often a caution, and our notions of discipline made the 'regular' drill-sergeants swear or laugh, according as they thought we were in earnest or in fun. We elected our own officers, and if a Colonel put up by us dared to take anything on himself without consulting his masters, he very soon discovered that, to use words we were fond of at that time, 'Britons never shall be slaves.'

"Well, sir, we had a Colonel—Goldyarn was his name—who bought his post. He had lots of 'tin,' and he came to us when the regiment was forming, and, says he, 'Look here; you will want money to carry on with; make me your commanding officer, and so much shall be put to your account at the bank.'

"He was a smart fellow enough, and had a pleasant way with him, so we said to one another, 'We do want cash and a Colonel; why not Goldyarn, who can give us both?' The upshot was that Goldyarn was gazetted at our head, and very soon we knew it, for our regiment grew to be the wonder of the neighbourhood. The officers glistened all over with silver lace, somebody was found to present us with a stand of colours—this was against regulation, but what did we care?—we marched out with enough music at our head to satisfy Wagner himself, and we flouted our splendour in all the fashionable neighbourhoods within easy reach.

"Well, sir, even then Colonel Goldyarn was not satisfied, so one day he called us together in the drill-shed, and says, 'Gentlemen'—we were mighty particular about the title—'something yet remains to be done to make our equipment complete. You know what a great poet has said of woman, "When pain and anguish rend the brow, a ministering angel thou." Well, gentlemen, we who are soldiers and are specially liable to pain and anguish, want some ministering angels.'

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"You should have heard the chorus of 'Hear, hear'! that followed these words.

"'Our natural enemies,' continued the Colonel, 'have not a regiment without its smart vivandière, who, in her pretty dress, marches at the head of the column.'

"'Gentlemen, we will beat the French in this as in all other things—we will have not one, but six vivandières, who shall help to make us the envy of every corps in the service.'

"Old Sergeant Brown of my company—he's dead now, poor chap!—growled out that he didn't want to copy any French fashions when women were concerned, but the younger fellows were all agog, and a resolution was passed, then and there, that six vivandières should be engaged, supplied with uniforms, equipped with brandy flasks, and drilled to march and wheel with the rest of us.

"The next question was where to find the vivandières, but our Colonel had got the whole scheme cut and dry, so he ups and says:

"'Gentlemen, we must manage this matter discreetly. Our ministering angels should not only be good-looking, but of good character; they should have fathers or brothers in the corps, and be surrounded by the precautions necessary to ensure respectful treatment.'

"Again there was a chorus of 'Hear, hear,' the young fellows looking mighty grave and sedate, and even old Brown thumping the butt-end of his rifle on the floor by way of approval. Well, to make a long story short, we agreed to raise the vivandières from our own families, and left the Colonel to invent the uniform best adapted to set them off.

"Going home I thought of our Nance—my daughter, sir—a strapping girl, and as handsome as any you would meet with in a day's march.

"'Nance,' says I, as I put my rifle in its warm corner by the fire, 'you know you are not bad-looking.'

"'Well, yes, father,' says she, 'I've been told so often enough to know it.'

"'Another thing,' says I, 'you love a smart dress.'

"'Of course I do, father,' says she; 'but what is it you're driving at?'

"'Only this, Nance,' I answers; 'would you like to be a vivandière?'

"'A what, father?' she asks.

"'A vivandière,' I says; 'a girl who wears a smart regimental uniform, marches at the head of the corps, and sells brandy out of an ornamental barrel.'

"'I've seen 'em in pictures,' says Nance; 'wouldn't I just! Give me the Queen's shilling, father, and I'll serve—that is, you know, if the dress suits me.'

"So it was arranged, and in due course Nance, with five other girls, were rigged out in scarlet and blue, loaded with silver ornaments, and made to look ten times smarter than she who beat the drum in a military opera I once paid half-a-crown to see. But the rummest go of all was that the Colonel put them under the protection of Old Brown and myself.

"'Drill them,' said Goldyarn, 'and never leave them on parade or on the march.'

'A pretty job we had, I can assure ye, sir. Bless you, the girls cared no more for Brown or me than for a couple of old brooms, and we were obliged to report the vivandières as fit to make a public appearance, without being particular about truth.

"'Good,' said the Colonel, on hearing from old Brown that he thought they 'would do.' 'The General is going to have a grand review, and our merry maidens shall come out then for the first time. What a glorious sensation it will make!'

"Well, it did, sir, as you will hear; but the glory was perhaps a little doubtful.

"The review day came, and so did, to our headquarters, all the people of our neighbourhood. The thing had got wind, d'ye see, sir, and I shall never forget the cheer as greeted Nance when I handed her, in her finery, brandy, brandy-barrel and all, out of a four-wheeler. But that was nothing to the scene as our regiment appeared in the street.

"In front of the band marched the six vivandières all abreast, old Brown on one flank, and I on the other, with sloped arms. "'Twas a pretty sight, sir, though, perhaps, I hadn't ought to say so, for the gals were well matched as to good looks, and stepped out bravely in their Solomon's glory of a uniform. At first the mob applauded; afterwards, however, they began to chaff—not the vivandières—but old Brown and me, their guardians.

"Talk about running the gauntlet, sir, I'd rather do that fifty times, though what it is I don't exactly know, than march through the street under them circumstances again. 'Oh you naughty men,' says one, 'There's a couple of wolves to be in charge of lambs,' says another. 'For shame!' cries a third. 'Three-a-piece, eh!' 'How much a kiss, keeper?' asks another; while yet another solemnly warns the vivandières not to give them respectable non-coms. too much to drink. In course we seemed to take no notice, but the perspiration rolled down my face, I can assure ye, sir, and I could see Nance looking very red and uncomfortable.

"Presently the Colonel, all ablaze with silver, rode up to us. 'Take no notice of this mob, ladies,' says he; 'you will receive different treatment on the review ground.' Which was true enough. Presently the ground was reached, and then I discovered that the Colonel had so timed the march that our regiment was last and had to enter in full view of the troops drawn up in line of columns. Now was the moment of our glory. Says the Colonel to the band, 'Strike up "The Maids of Merry England,"' whereupon we pulled ourselves together and advanced, the most resplendent regiment in the service, across the open space.

"'Brown,' says I, the next minute, 'look out; here's an old General's horse run away with him.'

"And sure enough it looked like it. The animal came thundering down straight on our vivandières, who retreated on the band in alarm. Only Brown and I held our ground, for we soon see that the old General knew what he was about. In another moment he had reined up, and was looking at Nance and her companions with eyes almost out of his head.

"'What the ——! By ——! Colonel Goldyarn, what the d—l are these, sir?'

"'Our new vivandières, sir,' says the Colonel, saluting, and looking rather nervous.

"'Your new vivandières, sir!' roars the General; 'and who the d—l gave you permission to put a lot of mountebanks at the head of your regiment? You'll hear more of this, sir. Upon my soul, I ——' here the General paused as though his thoughts were too big for words. Then turning to Brown and me, he shouts, 'Here, you sirs, as you escorted this precious lot on to the ground, now escort 'em off, and look sharp about it. Colonel Goldyarn, march your regiment to its place in line.'

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"That was the end of our vivandières, sir. What I suffered from the mob at the review while keeping watch over the rejected lasses is no matter. Nance and the rest returned their uniforms the next day, and the lot was at last sold to a Petticoat-lane Jew. Rum start, sir, wasn't it?"

Before I could answer, two sturdy boys had run up to the Corporal, seized his rifle, and carried it off triumphantly in the direction of a neat cottage, at the gate of which stood a plump matron carrying a baby to match.

"There's my Nance," said the Corporal. "Good-day, sir."—From QUIS SEPARABIT.

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Tae the "Auld Wife."

—o—

MA DEAR MITHER,

Deed an' it's sae lang sin I last wrote ye that I dinna richt ken whaur tae commence.

I'm thinking my last wis dated frae a place ca'ed Miranshah, and sin then I hae been a Barney Barnato, or a Wolf Joel at the verra least, twa times; yinst wi' the "Field Deposits" and yinst in the Batta. Whan we hed the Field Deposits we were at oor new station Bareilly, and the battalion gaed fair demented, and for aboot fower days it wis a' the Orderly Sergeants cud dae tae get men eneuch for gairds an' picquets; the Batta wisna' sae formeedable; we were at a hill stationed by the name o' Chaubattia, that's whaur we are the noo, ye ken Mither, still a guid few men got mislaid at a place ca'ed Ranikhet no fower miles frae here. Our Auld Colonel has left us wi' his time up, an' Major Camphell is noo in command; he's a gran' sportin' man. We hae hed gaffs innumerable up here; there's twa, three professionals stranded down at Ranikhet an' I'm thinkin' whaurever the bawbees rin' short they come up an' gie a gaff. I saw the Animatograph for the first time up here, an' it's a gran' discovery that, Mither, if ye cud only get yin an' show it at the next Mithers' meetin' an' let them see hoo a' things cud be dune wi'oot sae muckle cacklin'. I'm thinkin' ye'd no hae sae mony headaches.

Ma company's jist feenished Meclitary trainin', an' the maist important thing aboot it wis aye tae change yer sark; gin a man hed but twa and yin wis at the wash, he wis aye shair o' an extra parade the followin' mornin' at the Orderly Room.

I hae been daein' whit ye tell't me, mither, an' tryin' tae improve ma han'-writing an' wis giein a Sairgint a bit help, bit it wasna a success.

I'm no shair hoo lang we bide here, still ye'll no be far wrang gin ye address yer next tae Chaubattia. I wis gled tae hear that Tibbie's in service: tell her tae be shair an' no tak up wi' a sodger, but gin she maun hae a man, I think a polisman wud be best. I dinna tell ye, Mither, that I'm in Hospital wi' a sprained knee; it wis a ower the Meelitary trainin'; hoosomeever the Doctor thinks he can save ma leg: hoo wud ye like tae see me stumpin' aboot the fairm wi' a peg leg, aye, but it wud cum' in handy for dibblin' when ye were thinnin' the neeps.

We had an awfu' scare here aboot some new messin', but the whole thing's turned oot a blether, an' efter a' the names were tae'n they were a' scratched oot agin.

Now, Mither, I'll hae tae stop as ma knees's gettin' sair, so wi' best love tae you, Tibbie, Rab an' the bairns.

I remain,
Your lovin' son,
JOCK.

P.S.—Ye needna mind sendin' oot anything mair, but if ye like ye can hae a parcel waitin' for me at Gosport.

J. McM.

—:o:—

The Frontier Medal.

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OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Simla, August 5.

The Viceroy has much pleasure in announcing to the Army that Her Majesty the Queen Empress has been graciously pleased to approve the grant of the India Medal of 1895, with a clasp inscribed, "Punjab Frontier, 1897-98," to the troops employed in the late military operations on the North-West Frontier, and to all authorised Government followers and followers of the Imperial Service troops who accompanied the troops between the dates mentioned below (*a*) to all troops who proceeded beyond Edwardesabad, between the 10th June 1897, and the 30th January 1898; (*b*) to all troops beyond Jalala between 26th July and 23rd January; (*c*) all troops present at the action at Shabkadar on the 19th August last; (*d*) all troops who formed part of the Mohmand Field Force; (*e*) all troops who formed part of the garrisons of, and were present at Jamrud, Hari Singh-ka-Burj, Bara, and the outposts in the Peshawar Valley south of the line Jamrud-Peshawar, between 23rd August 1897 and 6th April 1898; (*f*) to all troops who formed part of the garrisons of, and were present at the posts at, Samana, and the posts beyond Kohat from Kohat to Parachinar, between the 27th August 1897, and the 2nd October 1897; (*g*) to all troops who took part in the action of the Ublan Pass on 27th August 1897, and in subsequent actions on the Samana and beyond Kohat up to 2nd October 1897; (*h*) to all troops forming part of the Tirah Expeditionary Force who proceeded beyond either Kohat or Peshawar between 2nd October 1897, and the 6th April, 1898. 2.—Her Majesty has been pleased to approve the grant of additional clasps inscribed "Malakand, 1897"; "Samana 1897;" "Tirah, 1897-98" to the troops and followers who were engaged in the following operations:—"Malakand" to all the troops mentioned in

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clause (*b*) of the preceding paragraph, who took part in the defence and relief of the Malakand and Chakdara between 26th July and 2nd August 1897 inclusive; "Samana" to the troops mentioned in clause (*f*) and such troops mentioned in clause (*g*) of the preceding paragraph as took part in the subsequent actions on the Samana up to 2nd October, 1897; "Tirah" to the troops forming part of the Tirah Expeditionary Force including the Kurram movable Column and the Peshawar Column, who proceeded beyond either Kohat or Peshawar between 2nd October, 1897, and 31st January, 1898, inclusive, 3.—The Commander-in-Chief is requested to issue the necessary orders for the submission of medal rolls in accordance with the instructions given in War Office Army Order, No. 96 of 1898.

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War Services in the Army List.

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THE FRONTIER OPERATIONS OF 1897-98.

Simla, 13*th August*.

It is notified for information and guidance that the war services of officers engaged in the operations on the North-West Frontier during 1897-98 will be recorded in the "Army List" and "Records of Service" as detailed below :—

1.—"Tirah, 1897-98"—For those who served with the Tirah Expeditionary Force; to be followed when necessary by any of the particular actions or engagements mentioned below :—(1) Action of Chagru Kotal; (2) Action of Dargai; (3) Capture of Sampagha Pass; (4) Capture of Arhanga Pass; (5) Reconnaissance of Kharmana Defile and Action of 7th November; (6) Reconnaissance of Saran Sar and Action of the 6th November; (7) Operations in the Waran Valley and Action of the 16th November; (8) Operations at and around Dwatoi, and the Action of the 24th November; (9) Operations against the Khani Khel Chamkanis; (10) Operations in the Bara Valley, 7th to 14th December; (11) Operations in the Bazar Valley, 25th to 30th December; (12) Affair at Shinkamar on the 29th January.

2.—"North-West Frontier of India, 1897-98," to be followed by word: (*a*) Tochi: (*b*) Malakand; (*c*) Mohmand; (*d*) Utman Khel; (*e*) Buner—For those who served with these forces.

3.—The following particular incidents will be recorded under the heading mentioned in paragraph (2) above :—

(*A*): "Action at Maizar, 10th June 1897," to precede the word "Tochi"

(*B*): (1) Defence of Malakand; (2) Relief of Malakand; (3) Defence of Chakdara; (4) Relief of Chakdara; (5) Action at Landakai; (6) Operations in Bajour; (7) Operations in the Mamund Country. The first four will be entered immediately after the general heading "North West Frontier of India, 1897-98," and the remaining three will follow the word "Malakand."

(*C*): Following the word "Buner" will be entered "Attack and Capture of the Tanga Pass."

(*D*): The following will be entered immediately after the general heading "North-West Frontier of India, 1897-98:" (1) Engagement near Shabkadar 9th August; (2) Action of Ublan Pass, 27th August; (3) Operations on the Samana and in the Kurram Valley during August and September; (4) Defence of Samana forts; (5) Relief of Gulistan; (6) Operations of the Flying Column in the Kurram Valley under Colonel Richardson, 20th August to 1st October.

The Naini-Tal Week.

—o—

Although somewhat late in the year for any account of the Naini week to be of much interest, the event we think should not go unrecorded in our columns, more especially as the regiment was so well represented in the Ranikhet contingent, and our band too added so much to the enjoyment of the festive week. Unfortunately we were unable, at the time, to get an account of the outing from "Our own correspondent," a natural modesty no doubt, and so have taken the liberty of extracting the following from the Gazette of our friends and neighbours the "Lilywhites."

"This year, as has been customary from time immemorial, the members of the Naini Tal Gymkhana sent a challenge to Ranikhet to bring over a team to play them at all kinds of sports and to spend a festive week generally over there. Accordingly somewhere about the end of May, a hopeful party of 16, chiefly composed of 59th and 93rd men, set out for Naini. It is as well to say at once that owing to the difficulty of getting so many officers to leave the station at once the team was rather a scratch lot, and not altogether representative of the Ranikhet talent. On arrival there we found that we were all being put up by different inhabitants of the place, who lost no time in showing us that they at any rate intended us to have a good time. The first event to be played was football. This proved a very good match, as although Ranikhet was beaten by 3 goals to 1 the score remained at one all till the last 10 minutes, when Naini managed to shoot two goals in quick succession. Our team as a whole played well, Poole, East Lancashire Regiment, being quite brilliant at times; but there could be no doubt that the better side won. Of the men's Lawn Tennis, which took place next day, the less said the better, the Naini players proving far too much for the Ranikhet pair. The ladies, however, Mrs. Griffith and Miss Stead, were more successful, and succeeded in giving us our only victory after a well-fought contest both in the doubles and singles.

Cricket was the next item on the programme, and a curious item it was, for although Rutter (59th) and Kennedy (93rd) started each innings brilliantly, the remainder of the team only managed to contribute 33 runs in their two innings! The result was that Ranikhet were defeated in one innings. The following day the regatta took place and Ranikhet, represented by Richardson (59th), Lonsdale (59th), Newall (93rd), and Howell (93rd), rowed a four-oared race *versus* Naini. This was, of course, a foregone conclusion, as our team only had four days'

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practice, whereas our opponents had been in training for as many weeks. Our four, however, rowed with great pluck, and were only defeated by a small margin. It was on this same evening that a banquet was held at the Club. There are some members of the team who haven't forgotten that banquet, and are not likely to do so!

To use a mild term, it was a somewhat spirited evening, and the scene in the billiard room afterwards would be difficult to describe!

Owners of many a grey hair could be seen struggling with one another on the floor, and it was pitiful to behold one smooth-headed old veteran being ejected from a window in spite of his entreaties! I believe I am right in saying that the band and pipers of 93rd also enjoyed their evening. It was in the midst of this hubbub that a billiard match was attempted between representatives of the two places. It could hardly be called a test match, and was lost by us.

I have said nothing about the numerous dances, concerts, &c., which took place during the week, and which were much appreciated by all of us.

On the following Monday most of us returned to Ranikhet after having spent one of the jolliest weeks which it has been our good fortune to fall in with."

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it's an easy matter tae get the "stick" at the standin' Camp.

That a certain man got it, wi his spats buttoned inside.

That it wants tae ken "wha did that."

That it disna' seem tae fancy the manœuvres at a.'

That it's been ha'in some manœuvres on its ain account.

That it disna' ken where the transport comin' frae.

That twa thousand rupee's ill no gae vera' far at ony rate.

That the troops renaged ower the new messin'.

That teen annies a day was a' richt for beer.

That thae wouldna' be a' richt for messin' tho.'

That never mind her colour if her hairt's no black.

That our Sairgents hed a guid day at the Standing Camp.

That the fired no sae bad considerin'.

That the range wis no a guid ane.

That the first boat'ill soon be awa'.

That the month his been owre wet for fitba'.

That—div' ye want onythin' tae read, hae a luk' oor sma' buiks.

That twa, three photographer budies hae been gey busy lately.

That it winders hoo thae machines hae been able tae stan' the strain.

That some curious medal ribbons hae been used.

That its Shahjehanpur cousins maist hae been born awfu' tired.

That no ane 'ill seen a screed fra there at a'

That the last fower years seem tae hae passed vera quickly.

That it congratulates its old Chief on his Colonelcy.

That Tochi honours wis rather late in comin'.

That better late than never.

That it's only a yarn.

———:o:———

Drummers' Picnic at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

(*From a Drummer Correspondent*).

TO break the monotony of the long and dreary summer the drummers of the left wing decided to have a picnic on the 4th August, and Drummers Buchanan, Gifford and Piper Lynch formed themselves into a Committee of arrangement. A place called Bassak, about five miles from Shahjehanpur, was selected, and about 7-30 A.M. on this morning the advanced guard, consisting of the Committee left barracks, being followed by the main body about three hours afterwards. The drive down was in style—1st class *gharris*, no flies (excuse pun); and although there was a slight fall of rain it only cooled the air without in any way damping the ardour of the picnickers, the ride down being enlivened by the music of the pipes, and the accordeon of Private Campbell. The rendezvous was reached just before 11, when the cricket ball was thrown to while away the time; Piper McLauchlan was an easy winner at this with Drummers Buchanan and McLauchlan second and third. Then came the most important part of the day's proceedings—the feed—which was most excellent, and reflected great credit on the caterers, the Committee, to whom a vote of thinks was tendered. After dinner came a cricket match, with refreshments, and then a musical programme, concluding with a chorus round. Then followed some tea and after that dancing; the drive home to music concluding a most enjoyable day's outing, retreat being sounded as the holiday-makers reached barracks.

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The following was the musical programme :—

Song (Comic) ... ... "Irish Jubilee."
Private BRISLAND.

Song ... ... "Robin Adair."
Private CUNNINGHAM.

Recitation ... ... "Charles Edward at Versailles."
Piper LYNCH.

Accordeon Selection ... ... "Popular Airs."
Private CAMPBELL.

Song (Comic) ... ... "For Me."
Drummer STEVENS.

Song ... . "Soldiers of the Queen."
Drummer MCLAUCHLAN.

Song ... ... "Dear Old England."
Private CAMPBELL.

Irish Song and Dance ... ...
Privates BRISLAND and FERGUSON.

Song ... ... "Annie Laurie."
Drummer BUCHANAN.

Song (Comic) ... ... "Last Summer."
Private BRISLAND.

Encore ... ... "Glasca' Ships."
Song ... ... "Lee Rigs."
Private CUNNINGHAM.

Song (Comic) ... "The Song that shall live for ever."
Drummer MALCOLM.

Song ... ... "O' a' the Airts."
Private CAMPBELL.

Song ... ... "Logie O' Buchan."
Drummer MCLAUCHLAN.

Irish Jig ... ...
Private BRISLAND and Drummer FERGUSON.

Song ... ... "Kathleen."
Drummer STEVENS.

Song ... ... "Ye Banks and Braes."
Private CAMPBELL.

Song ... ... "The Cameron Men."
Piper CLELAND.

The Reason Why.

—o—

What means this eager anxious throng,
Mehters sweeping the morning long,
And this is the burden of their song,
The P. M. O. is coming.

Floors are scrubbed, new chicks served out,
Patients are put on bottled stout,
The *raison d'etre* is, without doubt,
The P. M. O. is coming.

Things passed unchecked for months before,
Are now pounced on with awful roar,
Not a spot of dust must soil the floor,
The P. M. O. is coming.

The blind, the sick, the halt, the maim,
Incurables in nought but name,
To-day will settle their hopes for hame,
The P. M. O. is coming.

But what is this? Dust everywhere,
Kits upside down, clothes worse for wear,
It matters not, none seem to care,
The P. M. O. has gone.

MAC.

Temperance Topics.

—o—

Independent Order of Good Templars.

SINCE the return of the Regiment from the Tochi, the "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge has had many difficulties to contend against, what with the field deposits and the *batta*, and very many of its old members too left at Bareilly for home, and when the wing arrived at Chaubattia there were only fourteen members of good standing, but the strenuous efforts of these few during the time we have been here has done something to regain the old position of the Lodge, which now numbers eighty members of repute. There have been some very pleasant evenings in the Infant School-room, where the Lodge meets every Wednesday evening.

On the 27th of July last, there was a Football Match between the "Pride of Sutherland" and "Spectamur Agendo" Lodge, Ranikhet, which resulted in a draw. On the same evening the Ranikhet brethren paid a deputation to the "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge when the doors were thrown open, and all friends were cordially invited to attend, and many availed themselves of the invitation and hospitality of the Chaubattia Templars, and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the evening. Previously, on the 24th July, Bro. Rev. Mr. Cutting, D. D., paid an official visit and delivered a most interesting address on the "effects of alcohol on the nervous system." Between initiations and deputations to, and from, Ranikhet and from "Excelsior" tent, No. 190, of the I. O. R. Temperance men are having a good time of it at Chaubattia.

FREEZERS. A good story is told about the coolness of John Chinaman in the recent Chinese and Japanese war.

After the bombardment of the Port Wei-hai-wei by the Japanese Fleet had been in progress for some little time, the defenders hoisted a white flag as a sign of surrender. It was a cold rainy evening, when the Japanese envoys were landed and arrived at the gates of the principal Fort, to arrange the terms of surrender and they were rather surprised that absolutely no notice was taken by their Chinese enemies of their arrival. At length a dirty Chinese soldier half opened the gate, and inquired what they wanted. They gave their message, and the soldier shut the gate again, and told them he would report their arrival to higher Authority.

After an absence of about half an hour, the soldier returned with a note which he handed to the Major in charge of the party, who was surprised to read therein :—

"It is a very wet and cold evening;
Please come again to-morrow morning."

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Sergeant.—No. 3079, Corporal (O. R. C.) A. Wallace, "B" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals—No. 4403, Private R. Frew; No. 4579, Private W. Benson; No. 5853, Private J. Brown (while in charge Grocery Bar, Shahjehanpur); No. 5885, Private W. Morrision, "G" Company; and No. 5500, Private H. Lear, "H" Company, dated 13th April 1898; No. 4617, Private J. Davidson, "G" Company (while employed in the Gymnasium), dated 7th May; No. 5534, Private W. Menzies, "H" Company, dated 11th June; No. 5841, Private J. Brown, and No. 6088, Private R. G. Milne, "F" Company, dated 2nd July; No. 4058, Drummer J. Buchaman, "F" Company, dated 10th August; No. 3848, Private C. Greenland, and No. 5688, Private F. Rocke, "A" Company, dated 31st August 1898.

Drill Corporal.—No. 2768, Corporal J. Murphy, "A" Company.

To be Drummer.—No. 6663, Boy C. Dunne, "A" Company. No. 6664, Boy E. Dunne, "A" Company; No. 5844, Private J. Burns, "F" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. *per diem*:—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3805, Private G. Mitchell, 19-8-98.

Restored: 2d. *per diem*:—

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4296, Private W. Ewing, 28-8-98.
„ 4289, „ R. Wright, 28-8-98.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 5763, Lance-Corporal Allson, 10-8-98.
„ 4311, „ „ Wight, 9-8-98.
„ 4211, Drummer B. Brown, 20-8-98.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 3890, Private R. Houstin, 7-8-98.

Granted 1d. *per diem*:—

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 5838, Private R. Fraser, 28-7-98.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 5827, Private G. Clark, 1-8-98.
„ 5844, „ G. Burns, 29-8-98.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 5321, Private P. Allan, 9-1-97.
„ 5852, „ G. Lewell, 13-8-98.
„ 5861, „ A. Harvey, 12-8-98.
„ 5870, „ T. Pallar, 21-8-98.
„ 5874, „ A. Thomson, 27-8-98.

Restored 1d. *per diem*:—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 5226, Private W. Halliday, 28-7-98.
„ 5270, „ G. Fraser, 4-8-98.
„ 3852, „ D. Campbell, 2-8-98.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 3987, Private G. Currie, 26-7-98.
„ 4092, „ G. White, 18-8-98.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4543, Piper D. Frindlayson, 16-8-98.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 5320, Private G. Davies, 1-8-98.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4716, Lance-Corporal Davidson, 5-8-98.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

To rank of Sergeant:—

No. 3077, Lance-Sergeant Johnstone, "B" Company.
„ 2767, Corporal J. Murphy, "A" „
„ 3596, „ A. Rankin, "A" „
„ 3138, „ W. Fawcett, "E" „

To rank of Corporal:—

No. 5501, Lance-Corporal G. Houston, "D" Company.
„ 3990, „ „ G. Gardner, "D" „
„ 4290, „ „ G. Duff, "D" „
„ 5115, „ „ R. Jamieson, "G" „
„ 3022, „ „ W. Moat, "A" „
„ 5049, „ „ G. Rafferty, "A" „
„ 5180, „ „ W. Cockburn, "A" „
„ 3885, „ „ E. Mahoney, "C" „
„ 3995, „ „ T. Little, "D" „
„ 2736, „ „ W. Hall, "G" „
„ 4602, „ „ T. Currie, "G" „ in subjects, (a,) (b) and (c) only.

TRANSFERS.

To 1st Royal Highlanders,—No. 5693, Private J. Johnston, "E" Company.

To 2nd Highland Light Infantry,—No. 4539, Private A. Riddoch "F" Company.

To Royal Scots Fusiliers,—No. 4615, Private D. Kerr, "F" Company.

From 2nd Highland Light Infantry, Private W. Houston and posted to "C" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years' service with the colours:—
No. 2343, Sergeant T. Gillespie, "B" Company.
„ 3236, „ R. Miller, "G" Company.
„ 3116, „ W. Weller, "G" Company.
„ 3151, „ C. Stubbs, "H" Company.
„ 3146, „ C. Clarke, "H" Company.
„ 2479, Corporal D. Gordon, "A" Company.

To complete 12 years' service:—
No. 3899, Private E. McCulloch, "D" Company.
„ 4539, „ A. Riddoch, "F" „
„ 5844, Drummer J. Burns, "F" „

For one year under provisions of G. O. C. C. 457 of 1898:—
No. 4313, Private J. Ferguson, "D" Company.
„ 4373, „ J. McFarlane "D" „

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NUMBERS ALLOTTED.

No. 6663, to Boy C. Dunne.
6664, „ „ E. Dunne.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

"B" COMPANY—Figure of Merit $\frac{8}{40}$

Best shot of Corporals and Privates—

		£	s.	d.
No. 3077,	Lance-Sergeant C. Johnstone	0	15	0
„ 5484,	„ Corporal G. Ure ...	0	12	0
„ 3749,	Drummer A. Hollands ...	0	10	0
„ 4136,	Private W. Thomas ...	0	8	0
„ 5486,	„ P. Struthers ...	0	7	0
„ 3552,	„ A. Selley ...	0	5	9

Most improved—

No. 5486,	Private P. Struthers ...	0	5	0
„ 5079,	Lance-Corporal D. Macgillivray	0	5	0
„ 4136,	Private W. Thomas ...	0	5	0
„ 4223,	„ J. Hutton ...	0	4	3

Best shot of Sergeants—

No. 3037,	Sergeant G. Arnott ...	0	9	$7\frac{1}{2}$

Best shot at No. 6 Practice.—

No. 3077,	Lance-Sergeant C. Johnstone	0	4	$9\frac{3}{4}$

Best Shooting Section Collective Practice and No. 14 Pratice, No. 2 Section 2 17 9

Commander of Best Section—

Sergeant G. Arnott ... ... 0 4 $9\frac{3}{4}$

"C" COMPANY—Figure of Merit $\frac{19}{40}$

Best shot of Corporals and Privates—

No. 4153,	Private C. Sutton ...	0	16	0
„ 4011,	„ W. Brocklehurst ...	0	12	0
„ 4796,	„ W. Queen ...	0	10	0

		£	s.	d.
No. 3938,	Private D. Black ...	0	9	0
„ 4162,	„ C. Oliver ...	0	8	0
„ 4092,	„ J. White ...	0	6	0
„ 5560,	„ J. Laird ...	0	5	9

Most improved—

No. 3868,	„ W. Patterson ...	0	7	0
„ 5099,	„ R. Forrest ...	0	5	0
„ 5215,	„ M. Cairns ...	0	5	0
„ 4439,	„ J. Morrison ...	0	5	0

Best shot of Sergeants—

No. 3006,	Sergeant J. Ewan ...	0	11	0

Best shot No. 6 Practice—

No. 4102,	Lance-Corporal F. Marklew	0	5	6

Best shooting Section Collective Practices and No. 14 Practice, No. 7 Sub-Section 0 3 6

Commander of Best Section—

No. 3006, Sergeant J. Ewan ... 0 5 6

1ST PARTY CASUALS—Figure of Merit $\frac{19}{47}$

Best shot of Party—

No. 5007,	Private J. Scott, "H" Company	0	1	0
„ 4484,	Corporal P. Mathews, "E" „	0	8	0
„ 4630,	Private G. Duncan, "E" „	0	6	$4\frac{1}{2}$

Most improved—

No. 4484,	Corporal P. Mathews, "E" „	0	3	0
„ 5706,	Private D. Gennell, "E" „	0	2	3
„ 5828,	„ D. Sinclair, "G" „	0	2	0

Best shot No. 6 Practice—

No. 845,	Private F. M. Ross, "E" „	0	1	9

Commander of best shooting Section—

No. 4484,	Corporal P. Mathews	0	1	$9\frac{3}{4}$

TOCHI MEMORIAL FUND.

Statement of the above Fund.

RECEIPT.	Amount. Rs.	a.	p.	EXPENDITURE.	Amount. Rs.	a.	p.
By Officers' subscriptions	328	0	0	To 13 crosses erected at Miranshah	130	0	0
„ "A" Company subscriptions	64	8	0	„ freight of above to Khushalgarh and demurrage	23	10	0
„ "B" „ „	22	0	0	„ „ „ „ from Khushalgarh to Bannu	17	8	0
„ "C" „ „	59	0	0	„ Cost of erected crosses	19	3	0
„ "D" „ „	49	6	0	„ 22 more crosses ordered from Roorkee ...	220	0	0
„ "E" „ „	32	8	0	„ Stamp, postal orders, commissions, &c. ...	0	13	0
„ "F" „ „	69	8	0	„ Bank charges	1	0	0
„ "G" „ „	25	0	0				
„ "H" „ „	59	0	0	Balance cash in hand ...	296	12	0
Total ...	708	14	0	Total ...	708	14	0

CHAUBATTIA:
31*st August* 1898.

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INVALID'S PORT

INVALID'S PORT

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CUTLER, PALMER & CO., LAHORE.

LAHORE: Printed and Published for the Proprietors by the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press.

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Oct 1898

The Thin Red Line.

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N.B.—A beautiful Almanack given away to every soldier sending Home a box through us before 31st May, 1899.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 6—Vol. IV. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—OCTOBER 1898. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

DURING the month we have been treated to several entertainments in the theatre, all by outside troupes; the most deserving of notice being the "Ticket of Leave Man" by the Standing Camp Dramatic Club, chiefly recruited from the Derbyshire Regiment, who played to a large and admiring audience. The play is always popular with the back benches, and it was certainly a most creditable performance, the north country dialect, which is so characteristic of our old Dagshai friends, being quite in keeping with the piece. The part of Mrs. Willoughby deserves the most notice, the character of the voluble old lady being exceptionally well rendered by Mrs. Burrigade. In Hawkshaw, despite his many disguises, an old Dagshai performer could be easily recognised, and he appeared to be a great favourite with the gods, "Who will take it?" "I will." "Who are you?" "Hawkshaw the Detective." "Ha! ha!" being very popular for a short time. As is not unusual during a performance of this kind, several rather amusing remarks emanated from the body of the house, the struggles of "The Lancashire Lad" when he is arrested in particular calling forth a suggestion that his boots should be removed. Altogether the piece was a great success and the best that has so far been shown at Chaubattia.

* * * * *

Brigadier-General McCrae Bruce, Commanding the Rohilkhand District, inspected the Wing on Tuesday, 20th, the four companies being drawn up in line on the parade ground to receive him. The Brigadier arrived about 10 o'clock, receiving the usual salute on his arrival; he then made a most careful inspection of the ranks, and the Wing was dismissed to barracks, where a still further inspection was made, the General visiting each barrack and institute. He afterwards

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lunched with Major Campbell and the officers, and returned to Ranikhet in the afternoon.

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Previously the P. M. O. had visited Chaubattia to superintend an invaliding board, and we were glad to recognise (many of the invalids were at any rate) an old Mian Mir friend in Colonel de la Coeur Corbett.

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Another party of casuals, almost the last, have finished their annual course of musketry, Lance-Corporal Hudghton, "B" Company, being the best shot of the party with a score of 128.

* * * * *

Those who were in favour of the new messing scheme—and there were a considerable number, as the thought of an extra three annas a day had on the surface an extremely fascinating ring about it—were not a little perturbed in their minds when it became known that this extra money was on no account to take the form of extra cash, but was to be entirely considered as a messing allowance and to be spent on extra messing. All the carefully compiled rolls were at once treated as so much waste paper, for with almost a single exception the battalion "plumped" for "as you were." The latest is that the particular circular may be held in abeyance until a further decision can be arrived at, based upon reports from commanding officers.

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Lance-Corporal Lee, who left us for the Intelligence Department whilst with the Tochi Field Force and is now at Simla, has passed the Higher Standard Examination in Urdu.

* * * * *

From the *Aldershot News*:—

One of the best known instructors of the Army Gymnastic Staff is about to sever his connection with it in the person of 1st Class Sergeant-Instructor F. A. Wallace. For thirteen years he has been one of the best all-round gymnasts in the service, in addition to which he has instructional abilities of a very high order. S. S. Wallace is on leave pending discharge, prior to taking up the post of instructor to the first Lanarkshire V. R. C. in Glasgow. His service dates back to 1876, when he joined the old 93rd Sutherland Highlanders (2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) at the age of sixteen. He was a lance-corporal in 1885, when he was transferred to the Gymnastic Staff, and obtained the highest rating in 1891. Recently he was awarded the silver medal for long service and good conduct.

The return shooting match between our Sergeants and those of the Standing Camp took place on the Chaubattia range on Thursday, 22nd, but owing to the weather remained unfinished with our team in the lead by 57 points.

Shooting commenced before twelve and was continued until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, but after this it was an impossibility, and an adjournment was made to the mess, where a convivial evening was spent. Although the day had been so unpropitious, the evening was a fine one, and it was quite late before the majority of the visitors had made a start upon their long and somewhat dangerous return journey to Ranikhet.

Advantage was taken of this occasion to bid farewell to the few Sergeants of the Derbyshire Regiment who were among some of our first friends upon arriving in India some seven years ago, and who would shortly be leaving the Standing Camp to rejoin head-quarters prior to their move to Aden, the one halt upon their journey "homeward bound."

The following were the scores as far as the shooting had proceeded:—

STANDING CAMP, RANIKHET.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergeant Soutar, 93rd Highlanders ...	27	29	24	80
Sergeant Mercer, Derbyshire Regt. ...	29	28	9	66
Color-Sergeant Gilley, D. C. L. I. ...	23	21	...	44
Sergeant Lovett, D. C. L. I. ...	26	31	...	57
Sergeant Ambrose ...	29	27	17	73
„ Hopcroft, Derbyshire Regt. ...	29	30	11	70
Sergeant Howard ...	25	31	...	56
„ Evans ...	25	17	...	42
	213	214	61	488

93rd Highlanders.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Q.-M. S. Robertson ...	29	34	30	93
Sergeant MacDonald ...	32	31	30	93
Color-Sergeant Mitchell,	28	21	...	49
Sergeant Arnott ...	21	26	...	47
„ R. Miller ...	28	25	21	74
„ Johnstone ...	27	30	...	57
„ W. Miller ...	25	28	22	75
„ Ewan ...	26	31	...	57
	216	226	103	545

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For his services with the Tochi Field Force Sergeant Chapman, who went away from us at Nowshera as a Corporal, and is now on the unattached list, has been promoted to the rank of Sub-Conductor.

* * * * *

As an introduction to the perspective hill manœuvres, *khud* climbing parades have been the order, and in this particular art have been assiduously practised during the latter part of the past month. The instructions received, relative to these practices, were that they were to be "point to point" marches and to be progressive, first week in fatigue dress with sticks, next week with rifles, and so on, first by companies and then by larger units. We are just out of the second stage and commencing to practice as a battalion, though only two companies are at present available owing to "A" and "D" being at Field training.

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To still further improve us in the art of hill warfare there was a brigade field day on Saturday, 24th September, when the East Lancashire Regiment, aided by four companies from the Standing Camp, attacked Chaubattia.

The general idea was that a force "A" (ourselves) was the advanced party of a force moving from Naini Tal against Dwarahat *vid* Khairna and Chaubattia, and that force "B" had advanced from Dwarahat with the object of driving back force "A." The dress was "shirt sleeves," and force "A" had white helmets as a distinguishing mark. The day was certainly not an exhausting one for the Wing, excepting "A" and "D" Companies, who being at military training were treated to the lion's share of the defending work.

The "Cease fire" sounded about 12 o'clock, after the attacking force had, by sheer weight of numbers, succeeded in driving us back to within a short distance of our own barracks. The majority of the attacking force then formed up and immediately marched back to Ranikhet, but a few companies of the "enemy," who had attempted to turn our flank, somehow got mislaid about the "Corkscrew Road," and by the time they had reached Chaubattia the canteen was open; so they fell out for a short time to rest and refresh themselves, while our Sergeants' Mess was "At Home" to the few "B" force Sergeants who had managed to reach Chaubattia.

Similar field days will probably take place weekly until the advent of the manœuvres.

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Of course the event of most importance during the month has been the Wing Highland Games which took place on Wednesday and Thursday, 28th and 29th September, and lasted even into a third day, Friday, the 30th.

There were no less than forty-one events, three of which were open, and five hundred and seventy-two rupees were given away in prize-money not a bad amount to be competed for by only four companies. A full account appears on another page.

* * * * *

Lieutenant J. Johnston Stewart has been granted an extension of his leave on medical certificate and will not rejoin until the end of November. During his absence he has passed in subjects (*c*), (*d*) and (*g*) for promotion to Captain. Lieutenant F. G. Newall, has alro passed in the same subjects for this rank.

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The prize of Rs. 20 for the best kept soldiers' garden has also been awarded, Private W. Martin, "D" Company, being adjudged the winner.

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The last day of the month saw the whole of our detachment from the Standing Camp domiciled in Chaubattia, E. P. tents being pitched for their accommodation. Owing to the strength of the four companies already at head-quarters, the detachment has been kept as a separate section under its own Pay Sergeant, though it has been distributed between "A" and "B" Companies for discipline. There are now over six hundred men at head-quarters, and an "as strong as possible" parade is of fairly respectable dimensions for a wing.

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The departure of our section from the Standing Camp has reduced the troops there to two companies of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry the two companies of the Derbyshire Regiment who had been there since their return from Tirah having left the previous day, 29th ultimo *en route* for Bareilly to rejoin head-quarters.

* * * * *

The monsoons have at last apparently broken, and an almost cloudless sky and unlimited view of mountain and forest has taken the place of floating mist and lowering cloud. With the break of the rains the weather in the evenings has become sensibly colder, and at night a heavy dew falls, so that in the mornings the iron roofs of the bungalows have the appearance of having sheltered us during the night from a heavy shower of rain. All this makes us extremely contented at the thought of having to bivouac on the bare brae side, with only a blanket, during the ten days' manœuvres that are to take place in the hills here, towards the end of this month. The days are still hot however, for the hills, verging towards the warm side at times, but the shadows begin to lengthen about 4 o'clock, and as it is quite dark now soon after six retreat will no doubt soon be sounding somewhat earlier than it does at the present time.

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No orders have as yet been issued for the hill manœuvres, but it is on the tapis that we go out in the direction of Almora about the 22nd instant, to co-operate with the Gurkhas there, returning to Chaubattia on the 30th, and then leaving on the 4th or 5th November for Bareilly where we occupy the barracks vacated by the Derbyshire Regiment, the Borders from Quetta, in relief, not being timed to arrive until about the month of March next.

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We say no orders have as yet been issued for the manœuvres, but we have read in District Orders that we are to be treated to an issue of preserved vegetables and "spuds," and we suppose the equally popular biscuit and "bully" will also constitute a part of our menu, whilst away. We wonder whether there will be an equal liberality displayed towards us with respect to issues of rum.

* * * * *

Owing to the change in the weather there have been several cricket matches during the month between scratch company teams and our ever energetic sportsmen, the Corporals succeeding in beating a regimental team, by 100 runs on one occasion. Football too has been indulged in more freely since the ground has become drier, and there is now a match almost every other night.

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A Regimental Tennis Handicap Tournament lately decided resulted in a win for 2nd Lieutenant Herbert, who beat 2nd Lieutenant Coaker, in the final.

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During the early part of the month several unsuccessful attempts were made to award a cooking prize, but for about a week or so the weather intervened. The competitions, twelve in all, were restricted to the commissariat rations and were to perform the culinary operations in their mess tins only. All the dinners eventually cooked were of such equal excellence that the prizes were evenly divided.

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The 1898-99 trooping season is just commencing and our first contingent of time-expired men and invalids is away. The seventeen "tourists" left on the 16th, whilst the five invalids went away on the 23rd ultimo. Among the time-expired men was Corporal Guy Watson to whose energy in Dagshai in 1892 this paper under its then title of the *Sutherland News* owes its origin. Although lately not such a consistent contributor to the pages of the *Thin Red Line* as could have been wished, "Plunger" has on several occasions added to our original rhymes and songs, and the "Thin Yin" is very sincere in its regrets at his departure, and wishes him all good luck on his return to civil life.

——:o——

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Superannuated.

—o—

(A Soliloquy.)

A bed-room in a bungalow "up-country" in India. The walls are bare, the room is in disorder, the floor being scattered with bullock-trunks and portmanteaux and heaps of clothes not yet packed. A camp-bed and a wash-stand are the only articles of furniture left in the room. The washing and dressing necessaries are spread on a towel on top of a portmanteau. Two candles in bottles and a cheap little lamp give light to the room; but are hardly necessary, for it is 4 a.m., and the light that comes before the day is already whitening the East. It is late in the winter, and the glass windows are closed, for the air at night is keen.

The noise of voices singing "For he's a jolly good fellow" is dying away in the distance. The song stops; there is the sound of a faint cheer, and then silence.

Major Harrington, grey at the temples, but a lean, well-set-up man, hardly looking thirty-five, in mess uniform, is standing amidst the débris *in the room with an expression half amused, half sad. He stands and listens till the sound of the voices has ceased.*

Major Harrington: Good boys. D——d good boys. I wonder whether we old crocks were as good fellows when we joined as the boys are nowadays? (*He looks out of the window and notes the increasing light, takes up one of the candles to blow it out, and pauses.*) Nine-and-twenty years! What a little cub I was when I drove into barracks at Dublin, thinking myself the devil of a fine fellow, and what a drenching of cold water my conceit soon got. (*Blows out candle and takes up the other*). I never felt so lonely in my life as I did when I had been "packed up" by the other subs, snubbed by the adjutant, and ignored by all the seniors. It was a lonely time for me, almost as lonely as I feel now. (*Blows out the other candle.*) The beginning and the end are loneliness. (*He begins turning the screw of the lamp.*) Poor old Ram Bux! he would insist on bringing me his own lamp, as I had sent all the other things back to Jamsetjee. I wonder if the old man will miss me really. He was crying all the time that he was packing yesterday, and he's been Bearer to me for nearly ten years. But they say natives don't know what gratitude is. (*He turns out the lamp.*) Those young devils have kept me up to a most unconscionable hour, supping, singing, and making speeches. I wonder some of them didn't hurt themselves trying to carry me over from the mess. Young Stewart thought a spur was a good handle to catch hold of, and Graham seemed to fancy that my head might travel very comfortably along the ground. It's a wonder none of my kit gave way; some of it is old enough. I suppose I was popular with the boys. To-night looked like it. I know I always tried to remember that I was young once myself. (*A rose, one of the great clusters on the creeper that half covers one side of the bungalow, swings with the little breeze that comes before the rising of the sun and beats two or three times against the window. Major Harrington goes to the window and throws both sides open, inhaling a great breath of the fresh, keen air.*) Young? Am I really old now? Forty-eight, and I don't think there is a weak point physically in me. I could last out any of the young 'uns now through a long day in the saddle, and I hold a spear as steady still to a charging boar as I did fifteen years ago. "A good fellow and a good soldier," the Colonel said to-night in his speech, and that is an echo of what General after General has said to me; and yet, as second-in-command, I must go, and can only look to the doom of a retired officer, a house in a second-class street in Kensington, or a dog kennel at some south coast watering-place. (*He takes off his mess-jacket and draws off the bar of medal ribbons which has come unclasped.*) South Africa—the Frontier—Egypt and the star. I have had my turn with the best of them. The big men have talked to me as an equal, and the cleverest of them all have asked me my opinions, and listened when I gave them. And now comes the death in life of superannuation and the grey time of watching men luckier

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than myself climbing up to the highest ranks. My old company have asked leave to come down to-morrow to the station to see me off, and the Colonel and most of the captains and youngsters will be there to say a final good-bye, and then, six months hence, my name on the frame of a picture in the sergeants' mess, an inscription on a cup in the officers' mess, will be all the memory the regiment will keep of me, and in three years men will ask at the regimental dinner who the old fellow in ill-fitting dress clothes, with hair too long and a stoop, is, and that will be me; and yet now I am stronger in brain-power, sounder in wind and limb than I have ever been in my life. (*The chill of the morning air strikes him. He shivers, and closes the window. He heaves a great sigh, and then begins to take off his clothes.*) I suppose I had better get to bed and try and get some sleep, though heaven knows I shall have the rest of a lifetime with nothing else to do.

N. N.-D.

In *The Man of the World.*

—:o:—

A Hint to Feather-bed Soldiers.

—o—

When Nadir Shah invaded India, he arrived first at Lahore, when the Governor immediately surrendered the city to him and treated him with princely honours. At night Nadir, whose only couch for months had been a horse blanket with a saddle for a pillow, was conducted to a magnificent bed with piles of cushions, and twelve young damsels were in attendance to shampoo his limbs and fan him to sleep. Nadir started from his luxurious couch, roared for his Secretary, and gave orders that the drums should be beat, and proclamation made that Nadir had conquered all India. The astonished scribe ventured to hint that this conquest had not yet been accomplished. "No matter," said Nadir," where the Chiefs of the people choose to live in this effeminate manner, it will cost me little trouble to conquer them." And his anticipation was fully verified.

Head-quarter Wing Highland Games.

—o—

28th and 29th September 1898.

Probably one of the best gatherings held in the regiment for many years took place during the late month on the parade ground, Chaubattia, it being the afternoon of the third day before the final events could be decided. With only a wing at head-quarters great things were not expected, but three of the forty-one events were open to Ranikhet, and it speaks well for the wing when we say the first prizes for all these three events remained at Chaubattia. The programme was opened on both days about 11 o'clock, and with the exception of an hour or so for dinner, event succeeded event without intermission until dark.

The parade ground at Chaubattia, although somewhat small in the ordinary way, made an ideal sports-ground, the hill out of which it is cut forming a natural amphitheatre surrounding it on three sides. During each afternoon the slopes of these three sides, from which an almost perfect bird's-eye view of everything could be had, were thronged with the rank and file of Chaubattia, supplemented on the second day by a largish contingent from Ranikhet, whilst along the fourth side *marquees* were erected, and here the officers and sergeants had their mess enclosures. On both afternoons there was a musical programme, our own band being on duty on the 28th, whilst the band of the East Lancashire Regiment was present on the second day. On the latter date General McCrae Bruce witnessed the games during the afternoon, and there were numerous other visitors from Ranikhet in both the enclosures, Chaubattia probably never looking gayer than on this particular afternoon.

The feature of the meeting was probably the success of "B" Company, who took away about three-quarters of the prize money and with very few exceptions the first prize (in some case all three prizes) in each event.

The most exciting events were the two Tugs of-War, inter-company and open, and the open mile, all of which events were decided on the

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second day. The preliminary pulls for the inter-company Tug-of-War had, however, taken place on the first day, when "A" pulled "C" and "B" proved successful over "D," both fairly easy pulls for the victorious teams, though in justice to the losers it must be mentioned that neither had trained to any degree. The final pull took place in the forenoon of the second day, owing to the wing team, chiefly composed of men of "A" and "B," having to pull again in the afternoon. The pull was one of the best inter-company seen for several years and lasted over six minutes; at one time nearly the whole of "B" Company's team was over, but an almost superhuman effort saved them at the last moment and amidst frantic excitement they turned and won.

The "Mile" took place as the shadows commenced to lengthen and was a splendid race; the East Lancashire Regiment had two representatives and one of them led from the start, but Mossman kept him well in hand until about the last eighty yards and then spurted and won by about eight or ten paces. The "Two-twenty" open run earlier in the day also went to our men, Lance-Corporal Adcock being first with Mossman a good second and the Lancastrian third. The inter-regimental Tug-of-War was almost the last event, and naturally caused some excitement. The pull was a fairly good one, though not lengthy, our men having the advantage almost from the start. This is all the more creditable when it is taken into consideration that our team was not in the best condition, nine out of the ten men having pulled in the morning, and several had in addition been exerting themselves during the afternoon with the shot and hammer. This, however, had little effect on the result, though, after the pull, two of the team had to be carried away, having fallen, exhausted from the rope.

It was quite dark the second day before the distribution of prizes (for those events which had been decided) took place, Major Campbell making the presentations. On the afternoon of the 30th the pipe-playing competitions were decided and the Consolation Race run, these events concluding one of the most successful meetings held by the regiment in India.

The following were the events, with results:—

FIRST DAY.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

Private G. Stevenson,	"B"	1
" W. Robinson,	"B"	2

LONG JUMP.

Private E. Lillywhite (2458),	"B"	1
" A. Kerr,	"B"	2

THROWING LIGHT HAMMER (WITHOUT TURN, OVER 11 STONE).

Private A. McInnes,	"B"	1
" J. Fullbrook,	"B"	2
" McKinnon,	"A"	3

THROWING LIGHT HAMMER (WITHOUT TURN, UNDER 11 STONE).

Private J. Logan,	"B"	1
" C. Jenkins,	"A"	2
" J. Fullbrook,	"B"	3

100 YDS. HANDICAP.

Lance-Corporal J. Adcock,	"B"	1
Private M. Mossman,	"B"	2
" A Kerr,	"B"	3

PUTTING LIGHT SHOT (UNDER 11 STONE).

Private J. Fullbrook,	"B"	1
" C. Jenkins,	"A"	2
" J. Logan,	"B"	3

HIGH JUMP.

Lance-Corporal Daniel,	"D"	1
Private Cairns,	"D"	2

THROWING HEAVY HAMMER (UNDER 11 STONE).

Private J. Logan,	"B"	1
" C. Jenkins	"A"	2
" Trotter,	"D"	3

THROWING HEAVY HAMMER (OVER 11 STONE).

Private A. McInnes,	"B"	1
" J. Logan,	"B"	2
" C. Jenkins,	"A"	3

PUTTING LIGHT SHOT (OVER 11 STONE).

Private A. McInnes,	"B"	1
" J. Fullbrook,	"B"	2
" C. Jenkins,	"A"	3

GYMNASTIC COMPETITION.

Private J. Stadams,	"B"	1
" McNeill,	"A"	2
" Armour,	"A"	3

WRESTLING IN SACKS (COMPANY TEAMS OF FOUR.)

"B" Team (Privates Scott (5474), D. Anderson, Carter & Ralston)	1
"D" Team (Privates McGregor, Orr, Hanlon, Pollock)	2

BAND BOYS' RACE (220 YDS. HANDICAP).

Boy E. Dunne,	"A"	1
" Walters,	K.O.S.B.	2
" Fisher,	K.O.S.B.	3
" C. Dunne,	"A"	4

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SINGLE STICKS.

Lance-Corporal Adcock "B" 1
Private Collins, "D" 2
„ Atherton, "B" 3

WRESTLING (CATCH WEIGHTS).

Private Queen, "C" 1
„ Allan, "A" 2
„ Brown, "A" 3

BOXING (10 ST., 4 LBS. AND UNDER).

First Round.—Private Stadams, "B," beat Private Lightbody, "B."
Private Cooper, "D," beat Lance-Corporal Mitchell, "B"
Private Moriarty, "A," a bye.

COMPANY TUG-OF-WAR.

First Round.—"A" Company pulled "C" Company.
"B" „ „ D „

SECOND DAY.

BAYONET FIGHTING (TEAMS OF 1 N.-C. O., 4 MEN).

"D" Company Team (Lance-Corporal Daniel, Privates Orr, McGregor, Cooper and Collins) 1

POLE JUMPING.

Lance-Corporal Daniel, "D" 1
„ „ McDonald, "C" 2

HALF MILE HANDICAP.

Lance-Corporal Adcock, "B" 1
Private M. Mossman, "B" 2
„ Cairns, "D" 3

BOXING (10 ST., 4 LBS. AND UNDER).

Final Round.—Private Cooper, "D," beat 1
„ Stadams, "B" 2
„ Moriarty, "A," scratched.

CATCH WRIGHTS.

Final Round.—Private Orr, "D," beat 1
„ Allan, "A" 2

INTER-COMPANY TUG-OF-WAR (FINAL).

"B" Company pulled "A" Company.

Team—Privates W. Robinson, D. Anderson, A. Kerr, Scott (4581), Gibbons, Fullbrook, Logan, T. Blythe, McInnes, L. Ferguson.
Trainer and Coach—Lance-Sergeant C. Johnstone.

220 YDS. RACE (OPEN).

Lance-Corporal Adcock, "B" 1
Private Mossman, "B" 2
„ Simmons, East Lancashire Regt. 3

SACK RACE.

Private Earley, "A" 1
Boy Hefferman, K. O. S. B. 2
„ Morrison, "C" 3

KHUD RACE.

Private J. Atherton, "B" 1
„ J. McGillivray "B" 2
„ T. Carter "B" 3

PUTTING HEAVY SHOT (OVER 11 STONE).

Private A. McInnes, "B" 1
„ Trotter, "D" 2
„ C. Jenkins, "A" 3

PUTTING HEAVY SHOT (UNDER 11 STONE).

Private J. Logan, "B" 1
„ C. Jenkins "A" 2
„ Trotter, "D" 3

OLD SOLDIERS' RACE.

Colour-Sergeant Mitchell, "A" 1
Lance-Sergeant Watters, "C" 2
Private D. Jackson "A" 3

MILE RACE (OPEN).

Private Mossman, "B" 1
„ Simmons, East Lancashire Regt. 2
„ Farrer „ „ „ 3

N. C. O.'s RACE.

Lance-Corporal Lyons, "C" 1
„ „ Laird, "C" 2
Sergeant Arnott, "B" 3

CHILDREN'S RACE (FOR BOYS).

A. T. A. Toys.

CHILDREN'S RACE (FOR GIRLS).

A. T. A. Toys.

HIGHLAND FLING.

Piper J. McLean, "B" 1
Private Givan, "C" 2
Piper D. Finlayson, "D" 3

GHILLIE CALLUM.

Piper D. Finlayson, "D" 1
„ J. McLean "B" 2

REEL DANCING (COMPANY SETS).

"B" Company (Sergeant C. Johnstone, Pipers McLean and Fleming and Private J. McGillivray) 1
"C" Company (Privates McDonald, Givan, and Piper McDougall) 2

TUG-OF-WAR (OPEN).

93rd Highlanders, Team—Privates Campbell, Brown, McKinnon, Hill, "A;" McInnes, Ferguson, Scott, Fullbrook, Robinson, "B:" French "C." Coach—Lance-Sergeant C. Johnstone 1

BAND RACE (EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT).

Bandsman Prent 1
„ Woodlie 2
„ Franklin 3

TOSSING THE CABER.

Private Trotter, "D" 1
„ J. Scott (4581) "B" 2
„ J. Anderson "B" 3

THIRD DAY.

PIPE PLAYING—MARCH, STRATHSPEY & REEL.

Piper McDougall, "E" 1
„ Findlayson, "D" 2

PIOBAIREACHD.

Piper McDougall, "E" 1
„ McLean, "B" 2

CONSOLATION RACE.

Corporal J. Watson, "C" 1
Private Dunn, "C" 2
„ Hutton, "B" 3

AN ANCIENT BOROUGH TREASURER.—Once upon a time the Royal Borough of Stirling had a treasurer who could not write, but he could keep accounts for all that. He had a pair of old boots suspended in his parlour, one on each side of the fire-place. In one boot he deposited the public monies—in the other he kept the vouchers of his disbursements. His "boots" were regularly balanced, and no books could be better kept. An excellent Chamberlain was this illiterate treasurer of Stirling.

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Messenger Pigeons on the Indian Frontier.

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FROM the very earliest times pigeons have been employed as messengers both in peace and war. More than fifty years before the Christian era they were used by Decimus Brutus, then besieged at Modena.

Through the agency of pigeons he communicates with Hirtius marching to his relief, and we read that the winged orderlies acted their part to perfection.

This is one of the first recorded instances of their employment; but since that date there have been few wars in which the pigeon has not aided in carrying dispatches. To pass from ancient to modern times we have numerous examples of their use during the siege of Paris.

Some time before the latter event, M. Perre de Reo, a Belgian, wrote to the War Minister suggesting that all trained pigeons in Paris should be taken to various provincial centres, and that all trained pigeons in the provinces should be brought with all speed to Paris. Little notice was taken of this proposition, but by the influence of numerous pigeon-flying clubs 800 good birds were brought to Paris from the north of France.

Up to the time of the German investment, however, not a single bird had left the city. The way in which the birds were used is now a matter of history.

Some were set free in Paris and allowed to carry news to their former homes; others were taken in balloons and entrusted with the care of return messages from the provinces.

This was the only means by which communication could be kept up with the outer world, and on the whole the system proved a successful one.

True, it may be urged that vast numbers of birds never returned to their homes; but it must be borne in mind that in many instances the birds were entrusted to æronauts who had no experience in pigeon-flying. Moreover, they were often realesed in unsuitable weather, or late in the evening, and many were captured by peasants or killed in their flight by the enemy. The number of imperfectly trained birds, too, was large, but if enquiry be made it will be found that the excellent service rendered by trained birds was quite enough to compensate for the shortcomings of others.

That well-trained birds can be used to some purpose has over and over again been proved. More than twenty years ago Mr. Tegetmeier, whose name is well known in connection with pigeons, received two hundred birds from Brussels and sent them on again to a friend in Brussels announcing that the birds had left London. Incredible as it may sound, every one of the birds arrived at their destination before the arrival of the telegram.

Much more might be said in favour of messenger pigeons, but those who know anything of pigeon-flying and the clubs for the promotion of that sport will not doubt that they can be used successfully for military purposes.

In localities such as the Khyber Pass, and indeed all along the North-West Frontier of India, birds could be employed at a small cost and would prove of inestimable value. At isolated posts such as Ali Musjid, Fort Maude, Lundi Kotal, it is of the greatest importance that the garrison should be in communication with Peshawar, or the nearest station where reinforcements are quartered. Recent events, however, have shown how easy it is to sever telegraphic communication in a country liable to fanatical influence, and the possible disastrous consequence of a garrison being thus cut off is apparent.

Owing to the formation of the country, visual signalling is often impracticable, and cannot be relied on, but with a few well-trained birds a system of communication might easily be established between all the posts on the frontier, thus ensuring the timely arrival of reinforcements in time of need. Of course, the conveying of an important dispatch would not be entrusted to one bird, but sent in duplicate or triplicate, and to make assurance doubly sure it would in all probability be found most convenient to fix the posts at short distances, *i.e.*, between one fort and another. It is not intended here to enter into the mode of fixing messages to the birds, nor indeed to enter into the detail of their training. Both these points have always secured the attention of pigeon-flying clubs. The writer, however, seeks to urge the necessity of introducing into Northern India this valuable system of communication. When peace is once more established on the frontier an opportunity will be afforded of breeding and training the birds, and there are doubtless officers stationed in the north of India who would be willing to devote time to the project.

If some successful experiments were carried out, the Government might be induced to encourage the scheme. The training of pigeons is a subject which demands years of experience. One or two professional trainers would, therefore, have to be employed as a preliminary measure, but the climate is a suitable one and there are few difficulties in the way if a pigeon-flying club were first established —*The Regiment.*

CRICKET.

CORPORALS *v.* A REGIMENTAL TEAM—Played at Chaubattia on the 17th September, resulting in a win for the Corporals by 100 runs. The following were the scores:—*Corporals*—Lance-Corporal Wilcocks 11, 12; Daniel 4, 11; Mahoney 6, 24; Keeble 8, 16; Johnson 5, 13; Adcock 12, 0; Hall 7, 0; Marklew; Duff (Jock) 4, not out, 0; Roche 2, 2; Jamieson, not out 0, 0, Mitchell 0, Extras 5, 6; Totals 65, 84.

Regimental Team—Private Baker 2, 1; Sergeant Stonor 2, 2; Sergeant Peggie 0, 0; Private Jenkins 0, 0; Atherton 5, 0; Gowans 9, 7; Cairns 0, 0; Stevenson, 0, not out 8; Russell 9, 1; McLean, not out 1, 1, Johnson 0, 0; Extras 1, 0; Totals 29, 49.

—: o :—

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

THAT a certain Corporal got rather mixed.

That he mistook the P. M. O. for the Barrack Master.

That the first batch o' T E. men are awa'.

That they dinna' like Deolali accordin' tae a' accounts.

That some o' them are wishin' themsels back agin'.

That the monsoon is aboot ower.

That it only rains on Thursdays noo.

That the Sairgents' Shootin' Match wis spoiled by the rain.

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That that *khud* climbin' is maist awfu'.
That the field days wis waur.
That the rear rank o' pihla wis decorated on ane o' them.
That it gettin' gey pawky o' nichts.
That they manœuvres will be rough.
That it'll be waur nor Tochi and nae excitement.
That the sports wis guid.
That there wis bags tae go in "B" Company.
That it wis somethin' stronger than wa-ater.
That the Tug-o'-War wis the vera best.
That weight is no every thing.
That there wis a summary sentence passed.
That it wis revoked.
That he is no tae be shot noo.
That twa badges are handy o' times.
That there's gran' sport amang the twa stripes.
That ane o' their best sportsmen is awa'.
That will he no cam' back agin'
That thae medals look gran'.
That they mak' an awfu' difference tae a man.
That they cam' maist unexpectedly.
That thae photographer budies hae been makin' a gran' thing o' it.

—:o:—

Serving three Monarchs.

—o—

A SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDER'S EXPERIENCES.

Soldiers who have handled "Brown Bess," served in the armies of three British Sovereigns and live to tell the tale, are few. One such is Mr. William M'Gregor, who is at present entering on his 90th year. Mr. M'Gregor's personality is invested with interest, local and general. He is the father of the Superintendent of Dundee Public Baths, and is one of the oldest of Her Majesty's old soldiers. He is engaged at active employment in the Edinburgh Ropery Company's Works at Leith, and in neither mind nor body shows signs of age. In conversation the old man exhibits powers of memory and a grasp of detail that would be noteworthy in a man of middle age. Born at Leslie, Fifeshire, on 16th June 1809, his earliest recollections are of the handloom weavers—a race of craftsmen now approaching extinction. It was among the wabsters, to the accompaniment of the shuttle's click as a child, he listened to the village gossips denouncing "Bonny," and heard the tidings of the battle of Waterloo. Probably this may have had something to do with the military spirit which afterwards induced him to serve his country when George the Fourth was King. Mr. M'Gregor when a young lad accompanied his father to Dundee, and for some time lived in Dempster's land, Scouringburn, the precincts of which in later years became invested with a somewhat unenviable notoriety. Aged 18 (in 1827), M'Gregor enlisted in the 93rd (Sutherland) Highlanders, and was almost immediately drafted to the West Indies. While stationed on this particular island he had several noteworthy experiences. A troopship which had come out from home took the ground some distance from shore, and Corporal M'Gregor was detailed to assist in the disembarkation, which was effected by means of boats, the men watching for and taking advantage of a favourable opportunity of scrambling through the surf. The bush was close at hand, and the natives had a trick of making off with blankets and other goods. The sun was hot, the mosquitoes were lively, and altogether the conditions were far from pleasant. The old soldier recalls with pardonable pride the fact that he was complimented by the Commanding Officer for the part which he had taken in the operations. Mr. M'Gregor while in the service was a teetotaller, and the story of his conversion to the principle of total abstinence is curious enough to bear repetition. To no Band of Hope or Temperance Society is this state of grace due. It was "just a little bit of string" that did it. Not only were temperance principles not so well understood in these days, but Tommy Atkins, in addition to his shilling per diem and perquisites, was supplied with his "mornin'"—to wit, a gill of rum and water, served out on shipboard at 7-30 A. M. Like the other recruits, M'Gregor was supplied with grog. One morning gulping it down, a piece of tarry string which the jug contained almost followed the rum down his throat. It was quickly extracted, and M'Gregor became ill. Henceforth he foreswore liquor, and all the time he served His Majesty he abstained from drawing his quantum of grog. He had, however, to pay for the liquor, 1*d.* per day being deducted from his wages. In St. Lucia, Antigua, Montserrat, and Barbadoes he served in turn, keeping clear of the fevers which played havoc with the European troops stationed in these latitudes. For six years he drilled and marched under tropical skies till the order of recall came. While in the ranks he acted as servant to Colonel M'Gregor, commanding the regiment. This gallant officer played a conspicuous part on board the ill-fated troopship Kent, the burning of which affords one of the most thrilling tales of heroism recorded. So much had Corporal M'Gregor commended himself to his Commander, afterwards General Sir Duncan M'Gregor, that the son—Mr John M'Gregor, of Rob Roy canoe fame—was a frequent visitor to the old soldier in his retirement. Mr. M'Gregor was detained in the West Indies rather longer than was anticipated. The Welsh colliers had "rebelled"—history has since repeated itself—the Welsh Fusiliers, who were to relieve the 93rd, had been detailed to quel the rioting so that he and his comrades were kept longer in the West Indies than had been intended. Branching off to the story of the rioting and bloodshed in South Wales, he described how an

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officer, by a mistake in tactics, permitted the mob to come to close quarters with his men. One of the ringleaders seized the musket of a soldier, and the officer in question severed the assailant's hand clean off at the wrist, the sword cutting into the gun barrel. Mr. M'Gregor described the situation in a sentence—pregnant with expressiveness—"Aye, he was a strong man, but an awfu' week soger." In the days of Mr M'Gregor's soldiering "Brown Bess" was the Regulation weapon. It was not worth very much, he said, and its utility was in no way increased by an elaborate system of musketry instruction. They had no Bisley in these days. In the West Indies, Mr. M'Gregor explained, they went through a system of shooting with ball and cartridge. The method was crude. A bottle suspended by a string was the mark fired at; the prizes being Spanish dollars given by the officers. It was with one of the good old transports—the Marshal Bennet by name—undermanned and not particularly seaworthy, that M'Gregor and his comrades returned to the mother country. Every detail of the voyage is fresh in his memory. The drift-weed of the Carribean Sea, among which the ship lay becalmed for days, an altercation between two women of the regiment about family matters, incidents of a voyage made before Her Majesty ascended the throne, were as fresh in his memory as if of yesterday. He told of the weary weeks spent on board the transport, and of how, short-handed, the crew were so dilatory in shortening sail that the vessel ran her bow into the mud at Ramsgate. Commissariat arrangements in those days apparently were far from perfect, and the kits of the men had got into a bad state of disrepair. Some of them had no boots; the bad food on board ship had told upon them—so much so that Mr. M'Gregor said half a squadron of yeomanry cavalry would have licked them all. He himself walked along with his boots hanging to the ramrod of his musket. When ordered to put them on he transformed them with a knife into a sort of sandals more easy to wear, hiding the deficiencies in the uppers by slipping on a pair of gaiters! The regiment had a week of rest, but after that they had a week of "most awfu' drill." At Canterbury the Princess Victoria was to have presented the regiment with colours, but, unfortunately, other arrangements came in the way, and the present Sovereign of these realms did not grace the ceremony with her presence. However, the 93rd were inspected by the Duke of Wellington and Lord Hill. It was a great day at Canterbury, said Mr. M'Gregor. Then for some considerable time the regiment was engaged in route marching, and finally, when at Beggar Bush Barracks, Dublin, Mr. M'Gregor purchased his discharge, coming out with the rank of colour-sergeant after 9 years and 14 days' service—in 1836, two years before Her Majesty ascended the throne. The fact of his settling down to industrial life—he went back to his trade of a heckler—did not extinguish the soldiering instinct, for at the inception of the volunteer movement he joined the Leslie Company of riflemen. Mr. M'Gregor's military experience rendered him an active and useful member of the corps. For ten years he was a member of the Leslie detachment, at the end of which time he went to Leith, where he joined the 1st Midlothian Rifle Volunteers. For 12 years that corps had the benefit of his services, till he retired full of years and honours. As a memento of his connection with the volunteer forces he was on resigning entertained by the officers and men of the regiment, and presented with an easy chair and an illuminated address. His volunteer service has also gained for him the long service and other medals. And now, his soldiering done, he continues at his post, despite many inducements to spend his declining years at ease.

People's Journal.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Sergeant.—No. 3551, Corporal H. Kerr, "F" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5294, Private J. Stevenson, "D" Company, while employed on the Regimental Police, dated 17th September 1898; No. 6063, Private H. Munro; No. 4946, Private D. McPherson, "H" Company, dated 13th September 1898; No. 6145, Private A. McDonald, "G" Company, dated 23rd September 1898.

To be Drummer.—No. 4276, Private W. Ballantyne, "A" Company, dated 1st September 1898; No. 6101, Private W. Stevens, "H" Company, dated 13th September 1898.

To be Acting Bandsmen.—No. 6027, Private C. McKendrick, "G" Company; No. 5708, Private J. Tierney, "E" Company; 5746, Private T. Engleby, "A" Company.

To be Piper.—No. 3488, Private D. Ferguson, "B" Company, dated 10th September 1898.

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EMPLOYMENT.

As Clerk.—No. 5558, Private W. King, "C" Company, in Quartermaster's Office.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted Third Class Certificates of Education.

No. 5589, Lance-Corporal J. McLaren.
" 5893, Private J. McCulloch.
" 4108, Lance-Corporal G. Blackmore, "E" Company.
" 5534, " " W. Menzies, "H" "
" 6133, " " J. Roberts, "G" "
" 4579, " " W. Benson, "G" "
" 6063, " " H. Munro, "H" "
" 5029, Private A. Scott, "H" "
" 5243, " H. Laurie, "H" "
" 5851, " J. Roberts, "G" "
" 4643, " M. McGuire, "H" "
" 5110, " J. Greig, "G" "
" 5696, " C. Harkness, "E" "
" 5587, Lance-Corporal W. Johnstone, "D" "
" 5763, " " R. Allison, "C" "
" 4311, " " A. Wight, "C" "
" 5548, " " J. McDonald, "C" "
" 4818, Private J. Lapsley, "D" "
" 6027, " C. McKendrick, "G" "
" 5662, " T. Jones, "A" "
" 5536, " J. Boyd, "C" "
" 5136, " T. Dale, "C" "
" 5553, " W. McKay, "C" "
" 3595, " J. Benson, "C" "
" 5944, " D. Halley, "C" "
" 6167, " H. Simpson, "H" "
" 5538, " C. Forrester, "C" "
" 5947, Boy A. Morrison, "C" "

Granted Second Class Certificates of Education.

No. 2765, Corporal J. Murphy, "A" Company.
" 5688, Lance-Corpl. F. Roche, "A" "
" 5493, " " J. Hudgson, "B" "
" 3995, " " T. Little, "D" "
" 3990, " " G. Gardiner, "D" "
" 3749, Drummer A. Hollands, "B" "
" 5507, Private W. Reynolds, "B" "
" 5560, " J. Laird, "C" "
" 5678, " J. Marshall, "D" "
" 5115, Lance-Corpl. R. Jamieson, "G" "
" 5484, " G. Ure, "B" "
" 4102, " F. Marklew, "C" "
" 5501, " R. Houston, "D" "
" 5287, Private C. Munro, "A" "
" 5952, " J. Muir, "B" "
" 4379, " J. Logan, "B" "
" 6142, " W. Rastall, "D" "
" 5758, " E. Parry, "E" "
" 4116, Lance-Corpl. R. Martin, "H" "
" 4983, " M. Rutherford, "E" "
" 5853, " J. Brown, "G" "
" 4923, " H. McTaggart, "H" "
" 4567, " D. Inglis, "G" "
" 5841, " J. Brown, "F" "
" 4205, Private W. Kitchen, "E" "
" 5827, " J. Clarke, "F" "

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years' service—
No. 3306, Lance-Sergeant A. Lockie, "B" Company.
" 3079, " " A. Wallace, "B" "
" 2425, Private A. McInnis, "B" "
" 3186, Corporal W. Fawcett, "E" "
To complete 12 years with the Colours—
No. 3808, Corporal J. Allison, "D"

For one year under provisions of G. O. C. C. 457 of 1898.
No. 4342, Private J. Trotter, "D" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem:—

"E" Company.

No. 4002, Drummer R. McLachlan, 10-8-98.

"F" Company.

No. 4186, Private J. Gillon, 11-9-98.

"G" Company.

No. 4523, Private A. McNab, 29-9-98.

Restored 2d. per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 2425, Private A. McInnes, 3-8-98.

Granted 1d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 4796, Private W. Queen, 14-9-98.

"D" Company.

No. 5652, Private A. Leitch, 24-8-98.
" 3408, " H. Smith, 14-9-98.
" 5801, " G. Jones, 20-6-98.

"E" Company.

No. 5855, Private W. Brodie, 3-9-98.

"G" Company.

No. 5893, Private J. McCulloch, 30-9-98.
" 5856, " F. Andrews, 4-9-98.
" 5866, " W. Wilson, 19-8-98.

Restored 1d. per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 4428, Private W. Adams, 28-9-98.

"E" Company.

No. 4205, Private W. Kitchen, 7-9-98.
" 4552, " D. Clark, 8-9-98.
" 5118, " D. McLean, 9-8-98.

"G" Company.

No. 4971, Private P. Morrison, 14-9-98.

TRANSFERS.

Inter-Company.

No. 4358, Sergt.-Master Tailor, A. Blacklock, "F" to "B" Company.
" 2981, " W. Scott, "E" " "D" "
" 2571, " Drummer J. Walsh, "C" " "G" "
" 4129, Pioneer Sergt. R. Wilson, "F" " "G" "
" 4389, Private F. Bracey, "B" " "F" "
" 5653, " J. Edwards "B" " "F" "
" 4050, " E. Lillywhite "B" " "G" "
" 5947, " A. Morrison, "C" " "H" "
" 5758, " E. Parry, "E" " "D" "

From Suffolk Regiment.

Private G. Scarff from Suffolk Regiment and posted to "A" Company.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

No. 6703, to Private W. Houston, "C" Company.

DEATHS.

ROWLEY-MILLER.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjehanpur, on the 28th September 1898, No. 5609, Lance-Corporal A. Rowley-Miller, "A" Company, of enteric fever.

MCQUADE.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjehanpur, on the 27th September 1898, No. 5432, Private L. McQuade, "H" Company.

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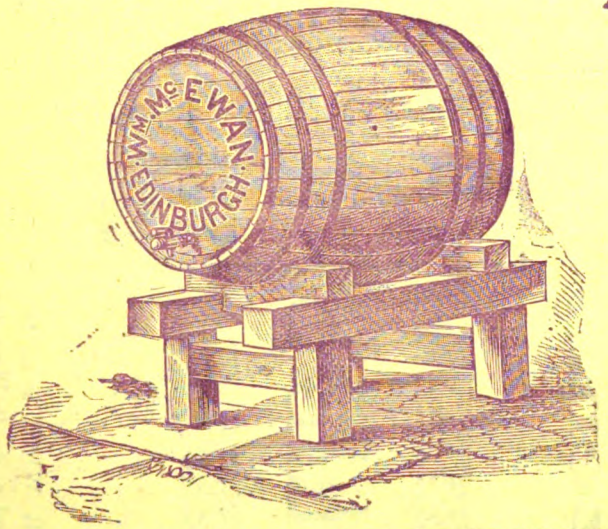

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The Thin Red Line.

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DOUBLE NUMBER.

THE THIN RED LINE

XCIII

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 7—Vol. IV. BAREILLY,—NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1898. [Price, 3 Annas

SKIRLS

THERE were two most exciting events on the second day's programme of the East Lancashire Regimental Sports, held on the parade ground at Ranikhet on Friday, 14th October. The previous month at Chaubattia, three events of the Wing Sports had been opened to Ranikhet, and in return the "Lilywhites" had the Mile open to us, and our Tug-of-War team was invited to a further test of strength; this time against a really representative team of the East Lancashire Regiment. The defeat of their scratch team at Chaubattia had put them on their mettle, and made them somewhat keen about wiping out the reverse. Our team had had four or five days' training, having been at work on the rope night and morning since it became known that the event at Ranikhet was to be an open one; this, however, was not much time in which to prepare for such a trying test of endurance, but, as events proved it, was quite sufficient, and this training had a material effect upon the result.

It was somewhat late in the afternoon before the open events were decided, several races being run, and the final physical drill display by the two best teams took place before the mile was run. In the race Mossman, contrary to his wont, went ahead from the start, and gradually increasing his lead won easily by over a hundred yards, the home representative being second, and Private Cairns, "D" Company, third. The 59th was unfortunately not represented by its best man, sickness, it is believed, preventing his running; this was a great pity, as it made the race quite uninteresting, and an almost foregone conclusion for our man. The result, however, augured well for the next event, and our Tug-of-War team now prepared themselves for the coming ordeal.

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Sergeant Johnstone as usual lost the toss, and the 59th had choice of ground; on first taking the strain our team, through some misunderstanding, measured their length on the ground, but were up immediately, and both teams then stood to the rope again. As soon as the strain was taken the second time, the superior weight of the Lancashire began to tell, and in addition our men seemed to have some difficulty in keeping their footing on the grass. Very slowly our team began to give ground, and three men were over the line.

At this critical moment our trainer tried an unexpected manœuvre, and an exclamation of surprise escaped the spectators as the Lancashires suddenly collapsed, and our team turning had regained their lost ground and more before the surprise had subsided. After this, although the weight of the Lancashires regained something for them, the advantage was with our men, and foot by foot and amidst intense excitement they drew their heavier opponents over the line.

The pull had lasted just over ten minutes, and was probably the most severe, as it was certainly the most exciting, in which any team of ours has taken part in India. There was immense enthusiasm among the Chaubattia contingent of spectators, chiefly represented by our band, at the finish, and the victory was proclaimed by the pipers striking up "Scotland the Brave" as they strutted up and down the ground. It was some considerable time before the ground could be cleared, and the few remaining events concluded. Distribution of prizes followed, and our representatives were heartily cheered as they received their rewards. The "Queen" brought a very pleasant afternoon to an end, and somehow a feeling of exaltation could not be repressed as the road home to Chaubattia was taken—a feeling by the way that had evaporated somewhat by the time the steep ascent to our highland home was overcome.

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The team which covered itself with so much glory on this occasion was as follows:—

Privates Robinson, "B," Fullbrook, "B," Brown, "A," Hill, "A," Scott, "B," T. Blythe, "B," Gibbon, "B," D. Campbell, "A," French, "C," McFarlane, "D," Ferguson, "B," MacInnes, "B," and they were trained and coached by Lance-Sergeant Johnstone.

* * * * *

As mentioned above, our band and pipers were present, the former under Bandmaster Davies, discoursing the following programme during the afternoon:—

1. March ...	"Soldiers in the Park" ...	...	*Monckton.*
2. Overture ...	"Die Frau Meisterin" ...	...	*Suppé.*
3. Selection ...	"The Runaway Girl" ...	...	*Monckton.*
4. Serenade ...	"Rococo"	...	*Helmund.*
5. Song ...	"The Maid of Malabar"	...	*Adams.*
6. Selection ...	"Faust"	...	*Gounod.*
7. Valse ...	"Les Patineurs" ...	...	*Waldteufel.*

God Save the Queen.

One of the events, voted by Ranikhet a most picturesque one, was the band race, for the performers run in full dress. Private Edwards was first, and Privates Engleby and Bracey, respectively, second and third.

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From the Broad Arrow:—

A recruiting party of forty men, under Lieut. W. J. B. Tweedie, 2nd Battalion, sent out from Stirling by Col. P. D. Trotter, commanding the 91st Regimental District, on the 6th instant, has been very well received in the district. At Tillicoultry, where they halted on the 6th, and at Alloa on the 8th, the Provost and Magistrates came out to meet them, and, besides providing dinner on their arrival at each place, the use of the public swimming bath at Alloa was placed at their disposal—a luxury after their long and hot march which was much appreciated. At Alloa the provost entertained a large party at dinner, the guests of the evening being Lieut. Tweedie and Colonel Trotter, who was staying in the neighbourhood, and Col. Moyes and officers of the 7th Clackmannan Rifle Volunteers. In replying to the toast of his health Col. Trotter remarked that it had been his endeavour since taking over command of the district to lessen the breach which seemed to exist between Civil and Military elements as regards service in the Army, and he hoped the march of a party such as he had organised through the district would help to dispel the illusions which existed in connection with military service. A gymnastic display which the party gave in the public park at Alloa was witnessed by several thousand spectators, and it is a good augury for recruiting prospects in the district that soldiers seen almost for the first time in the neighbourhood should have been so well received.

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On the 20th October the return shoot between our Sergeants and those of the East Lancashire Regiment came off on the range of the latter at Ranikhet. In July last the Sergeants of the 59th had paid Chaubattia a visit, but rain

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made shooting quite impossible on that occasion, and only two members of each team had an opportunity of firing. At Ranikhet, however, the weather was all that could be desired, and the match was brought to a successful conclusion, the home team winning by six points. In answer to the invitation to lunch before the commencement of the match, quite a large party of our Sergeants were away to Ranikhet early in the forenoon, and the hospitality of the "Lilywhites" was thoroughly appreciated after the ride down. After tiffin way was made to the range, which was a three section one, a third target on wire rope having been arranged between the two ordinary targets, and firing at once commenced. Owing, perhaps, to the range being a strange one some of our team were not so successful as might have been wished, and after a somewhat close and exciting finish the match resulted in a win for the East Lancashire representatives by, as before stated, six points—not a large advantage perhaps when it is considered the small number of Sergeants the wing had to select their team from.

A smoking concert in the Mess Room followed the shooting, and then there was some complimentary speech-making which made it close upon midnight before the "Queen" was sung.

The scores were as follows:—

59th East Lancashire Regiment.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergeant Tugwell ...	32	30	32	94
Sergt. Major Finlan	29	30	31	90
Color-Sergeant Slater	31	31	27	89
Sergeant Haslam ...	26	29	31	86
Color-Sergeant Willis	29	30	26	85
Sergeant Blunt ...	29	25	29	83
" Millet ...	25	31	26	82
Color-Sergeant Noble	20	28	24	72
				681

93rd *Highlanders.*

Q. M. S. Robertson ...	29	31	33	93
Sergeant MacDonald ...	29	30	30	89
" Hay ...	30	31	27	88
" R. Miller ...	27	29	31	87
Color-Sergeant Mitchell	29	29	26	84
Sergt. Stewart ("A")	30	27	24	81
Lance-Sergt. Johnstone	25	28	24	77
Sergeant Soutar ...	27	24	25	76
				675

Second Lieutenants C. W. Newmann and H. W. Martin, Unattached List, have joined us to undergo twelve months' training before being posted to a native corps.

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Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. J. Goff, having arrived from home, took over command of the battalion on the 14th October.

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The Government of India have at last sanctioned the extra messing allowance being paid in cash, and the fresh election has now to be made before the 1st January next. Men who originally elected to come under the provisions of the order, and whose names were withdrawn when it became known that payment would not be in cash, can, however, receive the allowance from the date of their first election.

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On Monday, October 17th, before going on the manœuvres we were treated to our last "gaff," "The Pantomime Rehearsal," after having a successful run at Ranikhet being brought over to Chaubattia as a benefit performance. The cast was largely composed of local amateurs, and was really a very excellent and amusing piece, which would have gone well with the back seats had it not been for its somewhat tame and unexpected conclusion As it was the songs and dancing were extremely good, and some of the topical hits, assisted by Lieutenant Webber's scenic effects, were very funny. The allusion to our recent receipt of the frontier medal was rather hard on us, but—such is fame!

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By the way, we had almost forgotten the most important news of the month. The first batch of medals, about four hundred, arrived at Chaubattia on the 7th October, and within three days the remainder, except some sixteen, were also received. On the 12th the wing marched down to the orderly room by companies, and the medals in their neat little boxes were distributed by the Company officers. It is now little more than two months since the official announcement of the grant of a medal was

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made from Simla, and the knowledge of the arrival of the first consignment here came as a pleasant surprise to the majority of us. The medals were engraved and finished in every particular, and this extraordinary expedition is certainly an improvement upon previous methods. Men who earned them have now an opportunity of wearing them before going on the reserve, and the regiment in review order also gains something in appearance.

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The wing, some 400 strong, marched out of Chaubattia for Almora on the morning of the 22nd October to join the Almora force in the hill manœuvres. The first march was to Mujhkali, a distance of some fourteen miles, where the first bivouac was pitched. The next day, a reputed eight miles, but seeming something more, and finishing up with a stiff climb after crossing a mountain stream, to Katarmal, and finally, on the 24th, almost all uphill to Almora. Here the battalion encamped on a spur running out of the main Almora ridge, known as Sitoli, and no doubt the site of some stiffish fighting when we were combatting the Gurkhas in these hills in 1814, as several monuments, erected to officers who fell during the siege of the town, bear witness.

Active hostilities commenced on the 25th and we were expecting to have our endurance pretty severely tried, as the daily operations were advertised to continue until somewhat late in the afternoons. Somehow or other though, we invariably happened to be in the vicinity of our new camp about mid-day, and, with the exception of one day, we always managed to finish up somewhere about noon. Mutton-pies were then produced and after a rest there was only to march into camp and arrange the bivouacs. As the band was with us too we had a musical promenade almost every night, except when there was a bonfire concert.

On the last evening at Mujhkali, hostilities being over and the *jirgas* having come in everyone was in excellent spirits, and there being no bonfire concert a few worthy spirits improvised a "gaff." The entertainment concluded with a grand dramatic realistic representation "The storming of Dargai;" the company under leadership of the chairman amidst much cheering and to the inspiring strains of the bag-pipes gallantly charged up a small hill close by, whilst an innocent chowkidar, who no doubt thought his last hour had come, unwillingly impersonated the agile Afridi. Carrying the gallant piper round the camp, and the presentation to him of the top of a "bully" beef can forming an imposing finale.

Half-past eight the next morning saw the wing on the march back to Chaubattia, Colonel Pulley bringing his little Gurkhas over to cheer us as we left camp. The cheers could not be returned, as we were marching at "attention," but although discipline was strong the spirit was willing.

Altogether the ten days' outing was a very enjoyable one, and the flattering account of the affair which appeared in the *Pioneer* a few days later, the correspondents describing the last day's fight as "altogether a most instructive day, the retirement of the Gurkhas and Highlanders alternately being a lesson to all who saw it," quite repaid us for any little inconveniences we had had to contend with.

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What struck one most on returning to Chaubattia from the manœuvres was its autumnal aspect, all gained in some ten short days, and the change in temperature was most noticeable, even the mid-day breezes having a decided chilly nip about them. When one remembered how mild Almora had been only a few days earlier the difference even a few hundred feet made in the temperature became very apparent.

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After the return of the wing from the manœuvres on the 29th October, preparations were commenced for the march down to Bareilly, where we shall occupy the barracks (left vacant by the Derbyshire Regiment) until the arrival of the Border Regiment in March next. As in coming to the hills the wing is to march down in two parties, three companies going on the 4th November, while the fourth marches on the follow-

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ing day, being joined by the two companies of the Cornwall Light Infantry from the Standing Camp at the first Rest Camp. The route down is divided into four instead of five marches as in coming up, and the first party will entrain at Kathgodam and reach Bareilly on the 8th November.

The East Lancashire Regiment also leaves in two parties, on the 6th and 7th November, respectively, so, with the exception of the usual winter section at Ranikhet, there will shortly be no British troops in the Kumoan hills.

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Commencing during the manœuvres, retreat has sounded at five o'clock instead of six, which with the evenings drawing in as they are now is not at all too early.

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Our attempt to canvas the popular opinion in the selection of a regimental football team has not proved the success we could have hoped, only some twenty coupons have been filled in and returned; and several of these are of the "curio" order. Some of the suggested teams contain the names of well-known individuals who, although most excellent in themselves, can hardly claim football as one of their accomplishments; we ourselves in one instance were shown as a dashing inside left—an aggrandisement by the way to which we by no means aspire.

This disinclination on the part of the battalion to express an opinion should prove most gratifying to the executive whose choice every one is apparently disposed to accept as the best. No doubt, by the time this is printed the first round of the Bengal-Punjab Army Cup will have been decided, and the team will have been thoroughly tested. From our own personal observation football players seem to be more plentiful in the battalion at the present time than ever, and quality is not wanting, making it only a matter of careful selection and training to produce a team equal, if not better, than any team previously possessed by the regiment in India.

The draws for the first round of the Bengal-Punjab Army Cup are out, and we are to play the East Lancashire Regiment at Bareilly some time before the 3rd December. We hear, too, that the finals are to be decided at Bareilly this year instead of at Umballa, which will give us a "Football Week" somewhere towards the end of February, and the opportunity, we hope, of witnessing many a good match.

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Being near Meerut this year we have a team entered for the Bengal Army Rifle Meeting to be held there about the beginning of December. With a little favour from fickle fortune our marksmen should have a very fair chance though, unfortunately, nearly all their practice has been in the hills, and there will now be very little time in which to get accustomed to a plain range. One of our best shots, too, Sergeant A. MacDonald, is away to Mussoorie as Instructor to Volunteers, and it is doubtful whether his services will be available at Meerut. There is still a respectable team left, however, who should be able to give a good account of themselves.

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Colour-Sergeant Smith, who received his promotion whilst on leave, Piper Major Ferguson and Sergeant Tyndall have returned from their six months' furlough Home, reaching Bombay last month by the transport *Nubia*. The draft from the 1st Battalion which they were expected to accompany will not leave Home until about the New Year, and will probably number some hundred and sixty rank and file.

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It was dreadfully boisterous and cold on the hill top of Chaubattia, at half-past seven on the morning of the 4th November, when the first party for Bareilly paraded, and very little time was lost in moving off. As in coming up, the short cut *viâ* the "Corkscrew Road" was taken, the baggage, however, having to journey *viâ* the cart road, making it somewhat late before its arrival in camp. The marches were somewhat longer than when coming up, the whole distance being divided into four instead of five marches,

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but the days were cool, roads in good condition and marching was very pleasant. The first day was to Bajjan, then to Bhowali, Jeolikote and Rani Bagh, and by train on the 8th from Kathgodam to Bareilly, arriving there the same afternoon. Unloading and reloading the baggage was not a lengthy undertaking, and the three companies headed by our own band and that of the Native Infantry were soon on the road to barracks, which were reached before two o'clock.

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The second party came in about the same time on the following day, and the whole Wing was settled and on an "as strong as possible parade" by Friday, 10th November.

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The distribution of the companies at Bareilly is very similar to what it was on returning from Tochi last year, only we have now two more bungalows than then, and there is accommodation for some six hundred men, which is, roughly, the strength of the wing. We have also most of the offices and institutes, which allows of No. 6 bungalow, used last year as an Orderly Room and quartermaster's store, being now used as a barrack.

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After the storm and hail of Chaubattia the climate of Bareilly seemed quite mild for the first few days or so, but now the winter, although not a Punjab one, is creeping on apace, and the nights are decidedly chilly.

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On the 9th November, the first party of the East Lancashire Regiment from Raniket arrived, and the 10th saw the whole battalion encamped on the *maidan*. The "Lilywhites" occupy the ground where we were for the first few days of our arrival in Bareilly before going into barracks, and their camp is a very imposing display of canvas.

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There was a preliminary brigade parade on Friday, 18th November, preparing for the visit of the G. O. C., Bengal. The usual review movements were practiced, and the battalion returned to barracks about eleven o'clock.

Although it is still rather warm during the day, serge clothing has been taken into wear for all guards and duties. Parades, however, are still in khaki

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There was practice for the massed bands of the garrison on the *maidan* on the 16th, 18th and 19th November, preparing for the visit of General Sir George Luck on the following week. Since then massed bands have been practising every Friday morning at 9,

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Captain Sydney Robinson has returned from leave and taken over command and pay of his Company, "B," from Captain Aitken.

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There was a big parade for the G. O. C., Bengal, on Tuesday, 22nd November, the battalion parading in drill order—serge—at 7-15 on that date: the rendezvous was on the *maidan* near the race-course, the troops being drawn up facing the saluting base by 8 o'clock. General Sir George Luck was received with the usual salute, the artillery on the right of the line firing the customary number of guns. After the inspection of the line the march past commenced, the 8th Bengal Cavalry going past first, followed by the 70th Field Battery, 2nd East Lancashire Regiment, 12th Kelat-i-Gilzai Bengal Infantry, 93rd Highlanders and the Border Regiment Detachment. The Infantry after this returned in line of quarter columns, after which the Cavalry passed at the charge, and an advance in review order finished the review. At 12 o'clock General Luck visited the barrack rooms, and seemed well pleased with all he saw.

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As soon as arrangements could be made to procure the use of the rifle range here our team for Meerut commenced practice. Nothing very brilliant was done, however, and after a few days the team were permitted to go to Shahjehanpur where they were rewarded by much better results. On one occasion the average for three distances [200 (standing) 800 and 900 yards] was 95 and at another 92, whilst at 500 (kneeling) Sergeant

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Johnstone was once credited with a possible. The Meerut Meeting takes place early this month, and we hope in the next number to be able to credit the success there of to some of "Ours."

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Lieutenant J. Campbell's leave home has been extended to the middle of this month.

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Lieutenant K. F. C. Marshall joined from Shahjehanpur on the 23rd November, and has taken over command of "C" Company.

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Major J. S. Napier has been granted general leave of absence pending retirement.

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The Bengal-Punjab Foot-ball Cup Tournament has been decided (at least as far as we are concerned), and "Speak it not in Gath," we have been defeated in the first round!

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The tie which was to be decided before the 3rd instant was played on Tuesday, 29th ultimo, and our team appeared to be out-played at all points, the result being one to *nil* against us. This is the first time within our foot-ball annals that such an early reverse has overcome our efforts, and it is certainly the first time, at any rate in India, that we have succumbed to an Souther'n team. The two matches in the hills, in which we met the East Lancashires, were, as far as the play went, much in our favour, and they had never succeeded in scoring a goal against us. This last trial of strength has, however, been very much against us, and the "Lilywhites" deserve the greatest credit for the pitch of excellence to which training has brought them. With one or two exceptions our team played an indifferent game. In the early part they seemed to think they had an easy victory, and afterwards it was too late to make amends.

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Sport should be pretty brisk in the battalion during the ensuing month, dates for the Inter-Company Football League and Cricket Tournament having been fixed. The battalion still being split up into wings will make the playing of the league matches somewhat awkward, but the difficulty will, no doubt, be overcome, and there is also the possibility of the Shahjehanpur half rejoining head-quarters at an early date.

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Second Lieutenant Howell, Unattached List, left us during the early part of last month going to Benares to join his new regiment, the 17th (Loyal Purbiya) Bengal Infantry. Although he had said farewell to his company and to the Sergeants as early as the 3rd November, he was still apparently loath to leave us, and it was not until Kathgodam, by the down afternoon train, on the day of the second party's arrival there, when he was seen off by the subalterns, that he managed to drag himself away. Second Lieutenants Moberly and Webber have also left to join the native regiments to which they have been appointed.

Cricket.

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THE return match between the corporals and the regiment was played at Chaubattia on the 20th ultimo, the regimental team having the advantage on this occasion by 10 runs.

Scores:—

REGIMENTAL TEAM.

Sergeant Stonor, b Keeble	16
2nd Lieut. Kennedy, b Daniel	6
" Craster, c and b Keeble	2
" Coaker, b Hall	23
" Howell, run out	10
Sergeant Beavis, b Keeble	1
Private Russell, b Hall	2
" Baker, c Lyons, b Keeble	14
" Ogden, b Daniel	2
" Stevenson, c and b Hall	0
" Lumsden, not out	1
Extras	6
Total ...	83

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CORPORALS.

Corporal	Hall, b Stevenson...	4
„	Fawcett, b Russell	0
Lance-Corporal	Willcocks, b Russell	6
„ „	Keeble, b Russell	0
„ „	Daniel, not out	38
„ „	Mahoney, b Coaker	1
„ „	Duff, b Russell	1
„ „	Lyons, b Stevenson	1
„ „	Adcock, run out	1
„ „	Johnson, b Lumsden	3
„ „	Roche, c Howell b Stevenson ...	4
	Extras	14
	Total ...	73

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The Hill Manœuvres.

—o—

SINCE the conclusion of the various recent operations on the North-West Frontier a great deal has been written and said about the urgent necessity of training troops in hill warfare, and with this end in view elaborate instructions for preliminary training were issued from Army Head-Quarters at Simla, and it was decided to hold manœuvres in each command at the conclusion of the training. Ranikhet was selected for the manœuvres in the Bengal Command, and for some weeks before they commenced we were all busily engaged in khud-climbing. The instructions issued from Simla though, doubtless excellent, were practically useless to us, as we did not receive them till we had completed our regimental training, and two days before the manœuvres commenced.

The following was the general idea:—A moveable column will proceed from Ranikhet against the advanced guard of an enemy's force whose strength is unknown, and who is moving to attack that station from the direction of Almora. The moveable column by taking up a series of defensive positions will endeavour to cover Ranikhet until reinforced from the direction of Bareilly and Naini Tal on the morning of 28th October, when they will in turn assume the offensive, driving back the Almora Force during that day, on the evening of which the operations will cease and the troops return to their respective quarters.

The following was the disposition of staff and the troops employed:—

Director of operations ... ... Brigadier-General Bruce.
A.A.-G. ... ... Capt. Bailey, 5th Lancers.
Orderly Officer ... ... Lieut. Keighley, Cameronians.

ALMORA FORCE.

Commanding ... ... Colonel Pulley, 1-3rd Gurkhas.
D. A. A. and Q. M. G. ... ... Capt. Somerset, 12th B. T.
Orderly Officer ... ... 2nd Lieut. P. Howell.

TROOPS.

1-3RD GURKHAS
2ND ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.

RANIKHET FORCE.

Commanding ... Lieut. Colonel Watson, E. Lanc. Regt.
D. A. A. and Q. M. G. ... Major Burton, Black Watch.
Orderly Officer ... ... Lieut. Newall.

TROOPS.

1ST BATTALION EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT.
DUKE OF CORNWALL'S LIGHT INFANTRY (2 COMPANIES).

UMPIRE STAFF.

Chief Umpire ... ... Colonel Hilliard, A. Q. M. G.
Umpires with Ranikhet Force... Major Hamilton, East Lancashire Regt., Lieut. Andrews, 11th B. I.
Umpires with Almora Force ... Capt. Taylor, D. A. A.-G. Lieut. Pearson, R. E.

As the sum allotted for the cost of the operations was very small only a limited amount of transport could be provided, and we, therefore, went out on less than field service scale and without tents, every man, however, being given a waterproof sheet, two of which with two short poles and a few feet of string made an excellent *tent d'abri*.

We marched out of Chaubattia at 6-45 a. m. on the 22nd October, strength 14 officers, 399 Warrant Officer, Non-Commissioned Officers and men, had breakfast at Upat about 8, and then on to Mujhkali, where we camped on a very dirty piece of ground close to the road. It looked at first much too small, but we found quite sufficient room for all our little tents, though there was little space over for parade ground. In the evening we had a bonfire, and a very good concert in a field close to camp.

Next morning we paraded at 7 o'clock, and marched by the bridle path, the baggage going round by the cart road. The path was down hill almost all the way, and along the Nana Kosi river. We made a short cut across this to get into camp at Katarmal, which took us down a steep hill on one side and up a much steeper one on the other. The camping ground here was smaller and more irregular than that at Mujhkali, and nearly as dirty, but we managed to get in somehow. After dinner nearly every one went down to the river to bathe, as there were several good pools just below camp. In the evening we had a concert of sacred music, including a waltz. On Monday morning the war began. We marched at 7 a. m. leaving a few men behind under 2nd Lieut. Coaker to harass the enemy, and make him deploy before reaching Katarmal. We crossed the Kosi river by a big iron bridge, and leaving the cart road about 200 yards beyond the river climbed up a bridle path to the top of a hill called Sitoli where the Eastern

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Force was ordered to concentrate and entrench themselves. The baggage had to move round by the cart road, and was not in till some time later. Colonel Pulley and his Staff Officer met us at the top of the hill, and pointed out our position. B Company furnished the outpost line with two pickets covering the road. C Company was just behind the crest of the hill in support, and A and D in rear. The Gurkhas remained in Almora on account of the Dussera festival. In the afternoon Colonel Pulley took an escort of 25 of our men under 2nd Lieut. Morant, and reconnoitred the river. Lieut. Coaker's party returned having been quite successful in their object.

The following order was issued in the evening:—

1-3rd Gurkhas.

A reconnaissance in force, strength as per margin, will move out at 8 a. m. to-morrow morning in the direction of the iron-girder bridge on the road to Katarmal. The Officer Commanding Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders will take up a strong defensive position on Sitoli hill with the object of covering the retirement of the reconnaissance party should it be driven in.

In accordance with the above we paraded at 8 o'clock, and moved off in rear of the Gurkhas, who had arrived about 7 o'clock and camped in rear of us. B Coy. remained in position at the top of the hill, and the remaining three companies took up positions about half way down. From what we saw and heard the Gurkhas got down to the river much quicker than was expected, and took the Western Force by surprise. We never fired a shot, and were ordered back to camp before noon. The following report of the Chief Umpire was published in the evening :—

The Eastern Force has obtained possession and holds the bridges and fords on the Kosi river to the north of the iron girder bridge.

We marched out of Sitoli at 8 A.M. on the 26th, the Gurkhas following. About half way down the hill we divided. Two companies under Major Campbell continuing down the road to the iron girder bridge taken the previous day as a feint with orders to try and induce the Western Force to believe they were our main attack and so cause them to strengthen their right, while the remainder of the force moved through Hawal Bagh, a deserted cantonment, to the suspension bridge over the Kosi River. A few shots were fired at us before we got to the village, but the bridge was not defended and we crossed it without difficulty and moved up to the top of the ridge between the Kosi and Nana Kosi rivers. A few picquets appeared to be posted across the latter river, but were quickly driven back by our firing line which had swung round to its right. The enemy's main position appeared to be on the spur where the East Lancashire had camped the two previous nights, and some heavy firing took place here as the attacking party had to advance in the open and down a steep hill to the river. By moving to our right we threatened their line of retreat along the cart-road, and about 12 o'clock the position on the camping-ground was evacuated and the enemy in full retreat. We followed as far as the camping-ground below the dak bungalow where we halted an hour for dinner After dinner we were ordered to recross the river and take up a position on the other side, but the object of this we were not informed of. We took up a position about 1,500 yards from the nearest front of the cart-road, sat down for half an hour or so and then returned to camp. It was understood that the result of the morning's work was in our favour. The Western Force had retreated on Mujhkali and we were to attack them there the following day.

As this involved a march of 11 miles by the cart-road, the hour for the attack to commence had to be decided. The Chief Umpire asked the Officer Commanding Eastern Force when he could be in position to attack. It was calculated that by marching at 7 A.M., we could be ready to attack, at 10, which would allow us to do the march comfortably and have a short halt before the real work of the day commenced. Orders were accordingly given that the attack might commence at 10 o'clock.

At 7 A.M. on 27th we marched according to the arrangement made with the Chief Umpire the previous day, but unfortunately the Officer Commanding Western Force was not informed that any deviation from the general rule that no one was to move before 8 A.M. had been sanctioned, and although we were fired on before 10 o'clock the Western Force were not all in position when the attack commenced as they had not expected us for another hour. Half of the 3rd Gurkhas succeeded in outflanking the enemies' right and got right in rear of them cutting off their retreat. Our four companies advanced up the road as far as possible and then attacked the enemies' left and centre up a steep hill where they suffered severely and were put out of action for half an hour. A company of the Cornwall Light Infantry of the Western Force had been surrounded and cut off however, and the official verdict was that the Eastern Force were successful and were supposed to have gained possession of Ranikhet.

As it was but little after 12 o'clock when the cease fire sounded, it was decided to fill up the afternoon by making the Gurkhas represent a savage enemy and attack the Western Force, who took up a position on the road and in the

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village of Reuni. The Gurkhas thought this a first rate joke and turned out in the most extraordinary costumes, and the pace at which they advanced was tremendous; but they came on right in the open without attempting to take any advantage of cover and firing most recklessly, not at all like the wily Pathan, who is most careful of not exposing himself and never throws a shot away.

It is difficult to say what the result of such an attack would have been. One is accustomed to consider at a field day that if you fire 500 rounds you must have killed 500 men. In practise, however, it is far different, and though the Gurkhas were very much exposed they were advancing rapidly and in a very open formation if it was a formation at all. The defending picquets were rather too slow in retiring, and they would probably have lost heavily. The cease fire was sounded when the Gurkhas had got through the village and the Western Force retired to Upat but not to rest as two companies of Gurkhas were sent out to snipe into their camp.

The actual camp they occupied was unsuited for defence, and the Officer Commanding Western Force considering this moved his force into a more defensible position and one which he would have occupied if an attack had been anticipated. The snipers however were not aware of this and moved straight to the camping-ground at Upat where they spent some time firing at empty bivouacs and then retired leaving the Western Force to return to camp to a rest which they had well deserved. During the night it was assumed that reinforcements for the Western Force had arrived from Naini Tal, and on the morning of the 28th they advanced against us in superior numbers. We held the village of Reuni and the cart-road with four companies of Gurkhas on the left and four more in reserve on a wooded hill in rear of our left which commanded Reuni, the road behind it and a lot of open ground in front. Our orders were not to move out of camp before 9-30 A.M., and we were hardly in position when the right of the Western Force which had left camp earlier appeared on the high hills on our left front commanding our position, and we were forced to retire gradually, the enemy coming under a very heavy fire from the Gurkhas in reserve as they advanced. We had just taken up a strong position in front of the dâk bungalow when the cease fire sounded and the Bengal Hill Manœuvres for 1898 concluded: At this time it was assumed that our main body had come up and that we had attained our object.

No official report on the manœuvres has yet been received, but it is believed that one will be issued shortly.

What the Parrot is Saying.

—o—

That its tug-o'-war men did awfu' weel at Ranikhet.

That it's prood o' them.

That they wis weel trained.

That the Mile wis an easy win tae.

That oor Sairgents wis no equally successful.

That they did as weel as cud be expected.

That loosing wis no disgrace.
That it wis haird lines for six points.
That thae manœuvres wis no sae bad.
That that khud-climbin' cam' in haundy.
That practice had made almaist perfect.
That the stew o' nichts wis gran'.
That there wis a maist awfu' amount o' eatin'.
That the field days didna' last eicht hours efter a'
That a bivouac is awfu' haundy.
That a few cam' tae grief the first nicht.
That it'll soon be on the move again.
That the last few days at Chaubattia wis ower cauld.
That history repeats itsel'.
That twa "Balaclava Days" hae noo passed wi'-oot ony celebration.
That it wis on a column the last 25th o' October tae.
That the Liver Wing made up for deficieencies.
That its cousin at Shahjehanpur is waukin' up.
That the wee cushie doo had a guid benefit.
That man, Jock, it wis awfu' guid.
That it's a maist oreeginal bird.
That it luks a fechtin' sodger noo wi' its medal.

What its cousin at Shahjehanpur says:—

That the T. A. Concert wis a great success.
That the Theatre looked bonnie.
That Peter wis the hit o' the evenin'.
That "Balaclava Day" will be lang remembered.
That "the ribbon" luks awfu' neat on the white linen jacket.
That we've some guid singers doon here.
That it's a great peety the Dramatic Club canna be revived.

CIRBAKIRUSEL.

This is not the name of some new patent medicine or hair restorer, oh dear, no! It's merely an aspiring scholar's way of writing the name of the late General Officer Commanding Bengal.

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Regimental Dinner at Stirling.

—o—

THE past and the present officers of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders dined together on Friday, 7th October, in the Golden Lion Hotel, Stirling, Colonel Nightingale in the Chair, the following officers were also present:—Colonel Chater, Commanding 25th Regtl. District; Colonel Cranfurd, Major Middleton, Cols. Hamilton and Campbell of Kilberry, Captains Walker, Henderson, Williams, McRae, Denholm, Pearson, and Fowler; Lieuts. Tweedie, Campbell, Baker-Carr, and Maclean. The Chairman proposed the Queen, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions past and present officers, and was replied to by Colonel Chater, Lieut. Tweedie, Major Middleton and Col. Hamilton.

A pleasant evening was spent, enlivened by a few songs from several of the officers present.

* * * * *

We are indebted to Major A. H. Middleton for the above and for the Menu Card and Pipe Programme Card of the dinner sent us. Also for the original of the telegram from the 1st Battalion in answer to the following from the Secretary of the Dinner Club:—

MESS PRESIDENT.

Highlanders,

Richmond Barracks,

Dublin.

Officers dining Scottish Dinner. Drinking health of Battalion.

FOWLER—Secretary.

The answer being:—

Many thanks:—Are returning compliment.

91*st*.

DEATHS.

FINLAYSON—At Glasgow, on 17th September 1898, Colour-Sergeant James Finlayson.

ANDERSON—At Shahjehanpur, on the 14th October 1898, No. 5711, Private D. Anderson, "E" Company.

It's Gey thin noo!

—o—

OUR Crimean veterans are melting away. Hardly a week passes now, but the angel of death draws his unerring pen through the name of some man on the muster roll, and the veteran goes to his rest. In our columns, this week, we announced the death of a veteran in Glasgow, who had rode with the Royal Scots Greys at Balaclava. It is now with deep regret that we notice the sudden demise of Sergeant James Finlayson, of the 93rd Highlanders, who stood in the Thin Red Line at Balaclava. By the death of Sergeant Finlayson, "Forage Cap" has lost a personal friend, and the members of the 93rd Regimental Association will mourn the absence of one of their most genuine comrades. A better specimen of the "fine old soldier" it has not been our privilege to know. He joined the 93rd Highlanders in 1846, and his services included the Crimean War and Indian Mutiny. He took part in all the actions in which the 93rd Highlanders were engaged, and when he left the army in 1867 he was appointed to the Aboyne Company as an instructor of Volunteers, a position which he held for about nineteen years. When the fiftieth anniversary of his enlistment came round, our gallant but now departed friend promoted a "celebration" of the same, to which he invited a few of his old comrades. It was then a treat to see him "at home." Alas! we shall see him no more. Last Wednesday he was at his work, and all seemed well; but he was suddenly struck down with a dangerous trouble, and he died in the Royal Infirmary early on Saturday morning. His comrades of the 93rd will doubtless get due intimation of the funeral, which takes place to-morrow. Members of the Veterans' Association will please note the announcement on front page of *News*.

* * * * * *

We last week noticed the sudden death of Sergt. James Finlayson, 93rd Highlanders. Since Balaclava Day, in October last, the death of Sergeant Finlayson makes the fifth gap made in the ranks of the old 93rd. Comrades who were unable to attend will learn with pride that the turnout of veterans of the corps and other comrades and friends was really good; and when the funeral car—a very appropriate and evidently new conveyance for a soldier—left Parson Street for the Necropolis, the cortége was watched by a large concourse of spectators. Deceased's medals were attached to the coffin, which was covered with flowers, and we were especially pleased to see the Queen's uniform in the procession. Sergeant-Instructors Scott and Robb, of the Dumbartonshire Regiment, and Sergeant-Major Boyd and Instructors M'Laughlin

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and Williams, of the 4th Scottish Rifles, were in uniform, and when the funeral car neared the place of interment the remains of the dear departed veteran were carried shoulder high by Boyd, Williams, Scott, and Robb, to the open grave. It was a sorrowful, yet it was a beautiful picture, and one that was made all the more complete when those who had fought side by side with him in many a fight gathered round to lower the coffin.

Amongst those who came from a distance to the funeral, we were pleased to see Sergt.-Major Motion, of the training ship "Empress"; while the company included such well-known veterans as Simpson, Mitchell, Fulton, M'Lay, M'Donald. Smith, Martin, and others of the 93rd; Bell, of the Royal Artillery; Quartermaster-Sergt. Bell, of the 4th Scottish Rifles, and many other old comrades and friends. It is rather a curious coincidence, moreover, that on that same day (the 20th September) 44 years ago, and about the time of burial in the afternoon, the gallant 93rd Highlanders were reaching the Heights of Alma, after what is known to have been a bloody fight.

FORAGE CAP.

IN THE "GLASGOW EVENING NEWS."

———:o:———

COLOUR-SERGT. JAMES FINLAYSON

(*One of the Thin Red Line*),

Died 17th September, 1898.

Another gone! The "Thin Red Line"
Grows thinner with the years,
And now the kindest soul of all
Goes down amid our tears.

Gone is he from us, and his voice
And eye, no more shall tell
How, through those hordes of steel-streaked blue,
The Red Arm rose and fell.

Death, who upon that direful day
So grimly o'er us hung,
Beheld that rank, and paused his blade,
So sternly were they strung!

Without a sound of fear they stood
As if on life they gazed;
Death deemed a rival in the field,
And turned away amazed!

He was a Scot of Auld Lang Syne,
So generous and leal;
In peace, a lover of good will,
In war, a shaft of steel!

"It's gey thin noo"*—Nay, noble soul,
Death cannot quench that line!
For in the memory of this land
Still reddening it shall shine.

T. L.

St. Rollox, 20th Sept. 1898.

* On being asked by the nurse in the Infirmary if he was one of the "Thin Red Line," Sergeant Finlayson replied—"Aye! but it's gey thin noo!"

Temperance Topics.

—o—

THE A. T. A.

THERE was quite a large gathering, teetotal and otherwise, in the Gymnasium, Chaubattia, on the evening of the 3rd October, to witness the presentation of honours, and to enjoy the concert which had been provided for us by the Regimental Branch of the A. T. A. on this date. A substantial tea had preceded the concert, and to this about two hundred and sixty sat down, invitations having been sent to every one in the station. It was after seven o'clock before the tea had been disposed of, and then arrangements were at once made to fit up the stage and prepare the hall for the concert. The Committee of management worked like heroes, and in a very short time quite a tasty little stage had been fitted up, draped with flags, whilst flags of all colours were arranged to form the proscenium and the back-ground. The concert was arranged for eight o'clock, and soon after this hour the President, Private Donoghue announced the first song. Mrs. Aitken, who had kindly consented to present the medals, then arrived, accompanied by Miss Brand and 2nd Lieut. Gillatt; the latter as honorary president occupying the chair and conducting the remainder of the programme, which was as follows:—

PART I.

Overture (Piano) ... ... Band Master DAVIES.

Song ... ... "The Empty Chair." Private F. SHORT.

Song (Comic) ... ... "The Sour Apple-tree." Private REYNOLDS.

Song ... ... "Whisper and I shall hear." Bandsman BENSON.

Song (Scotch comic) ... ... "Jean McDade, the Laundry Maid." Drummer BURNS.

Encore ... ... "All for the Sake of Mary."

Song ... ... "A Pack of Cards." Corporal WATSON.

Ventriloquism ... ... Private BARNARD.

Song ... ... "Sailor Boy." Boy MORRISON.

Song (Comic) ... ... "The Masher up to date—ah." Lance-Corporal LYONS.

Song ... ... "Jack's Yarn." Private ARMOUR.

Song and Dance ... ... "When the Moonbeams gently fall." Private A. MCGREGOR.

Mandoline Duet ... ... Privates BENSON and BARNARD.

Song ... ... "I'll row thee ower the Clyde." Corporal RICHMOND.

Stump Sermon ... ... "Mother Hubbard." Private D. C. MACGREGOR.

Encore ... ... "The Wreck of the Dover Express."

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Presentation of honours followed Part I of the programme, the presentation being preceded by a neat speech from the Chair; Mrs. Aitken pinned the medals on the breast of each recipient; the following were the awards:—

Sergeant W. Scott	10 years'	Medal.
Lance-Sergeant C. Johnstone	8 „	„
Sergeant W. Miller	7 „	„
Corporal A. Rankin	6 „	„
„ A. Maskell	6 „	„
Lance-Corporal C Greeland	6 „	„
„ Mahoney	6 „	„
Private J. McFarlane	6 „	„
Bandsman G. Burns	6 „	„
Lance-Sergeant A. Lockie	4 „	„
„ Corporal W. Stewart	4 „	„
Private M. Mossman	4 „	„
„ T. Harrison	3 „	„
Drummer J. Burns	2 „	Bar.
Corporal G. Ward	2 „	„
Pioneer Lang	1 „	Medal.

Private J. McFarlane was, in addition, presented with the Association Medal in recognition of his services in the Regimental Branch—an honour to which he was thoroughly entitled,—and on the receipt of the medal he was deservedly cheered. Following the presentation came the remainder of the Concert:—

PART II.

Song ... ... "Victoria, the mother of our Nation."
Private ARMOUR.

Song (Comic) ... ... "Slap Dab."
Bandsman REYNOLDS.

Song ... ... "The Song that will live for ever."
Bandsman BENSON.

Song ... ... "Mary o' Argyll."
Corporal RICHMOND.

Recitation ... ... "The Last Shot."
Lance-Sergeant JOHNSTONE.

Song (Comic) ... ..."The Day before the Marriage."
Private BARNARD.

Club Swinging ... ...
Private COOPER.

Song ... ... "Our Stores."
Lance-Corporal LYONS.

Here our popular Chaplain, the Reverend Mr. Cameron, was called upon by the Chairman, and we listened to a most able address upon the advantages of temperance. Mr. Cameron not only spoke of the advantages of temperance in the Army, but also of its beneficial effects in after life, and to the great store set on temperance and a good army character by employers of labour at Home. He also told all members, who had been true to their pledge while away beyond the frontier, that they might expect a Bar inscribed "Tochi" to be attached to their other temperance medal ribbon as a memento of their loyalty to abstinence during the trials and hardships of active service.

Our popular Padre's little lecture held all in wrapt attention, and cheer followed cheer upon its close.

Another mandoline duet by Privates Benson and Barnard, a song, and its encore "The Laddie that cam' tae woo me" by Drummer Burns, and "Whilst London's fast asleep" by Private Short, concluded the second part of the programme; then followed cheers for Mrs. Aitken, Rev. Mr. Cameron and the honorary chairman, then the "Queen," and so concluded one of the most enjoyable evenings the A. T. A. has ever organised, and certainly one of the best concerts ever held in Chaubattia.

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"Balaclava Day" in Glasgow.

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BY FORAGE CAP.

ALTHOUGH they have lost a good few comrades during the past year, the 93rd never promoted a more successful Balaclava celebration. There were a number of apologies. Colonel Nightingale is not in robust health, and he was unable to be present; General Sir John Ewart is getting up in years, and could not risk the journey; Colonel Trotter has met with an accident, and was unable to join his veteran friends; but Colonel Chater, who came from Berwick, filled the breach, and presided over a first rate meeting. He was accompanied by Major Middleton. The roll-call showed that the oldest soldier present (Sutherland) joined the 93rd in 1844. He is a sturdy-looking old chap, and looks wonderfully well for his years. One old and pretty grey veteran had not been in Glasgow for a number of years, and he came from Irvine just to "give honour where honour was due." He referred to the best man he ever knew (General Sir John Ewart), and there was distress in the old soldier's face when he learned that Sir John was not at the meeting. The speeches were short, but they had the proper ring about them. Smith gave "Our Comrades," Diverty was polished and manly with "Officers Past and Present," and M'Kinlay was pithy with "Our Guests and Press."

Colonel Chater was a spectator at the manœuvres, where he saw Colonel Hannay. He told the 93rd men that when the eye grew tired looking at all the different regiments marching towards camp one evening, it was refreshing to hear the pipes and drums, and to see the 4th Battalion of their own corps (Paisley Militia), who looked exceedingly smart and fit. After an interval then, the spectators saw another Highland regiment approaching. "Here come the Scotties!" was the cry, and on they came. They were swinging along at a good pace, and the

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men were singing on the march. That regiment was the 91st Highlanders, and the gallant Colonel assured his audience in the Trade's Hall that they would have been proud to look at them.

The old 93rd are just now at Ranikhet, in India, and the officers sent them a telegram from the meeting, which would be sure to be highly appreciated. Amongst veterans who came from a distance were two sturdy postmen (Maxwell and Stirling) from Dunblane. They are regular attenders at the Glasgow celebration, and their comrades in other parts of Scotland will learn with satisfaction that there is still a healthy remnant left of the Crimean veterans who looked very well indeed on Friday night It should be mentioned that the daughter of Treasurer Simpson presided at the piano.

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Wedding of Captain Mackenzie and Miss Holdsworth.

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THE wedding of Captain A. F. Mackenzie. 93rd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, only surviving son of Captain and Mrs. Mackenzie of Ord, and Olive, third daughter of the late Mr. George Holdsworth and Mrs. Holdworth, of Ayotbury, Welwyn, took place on Saturday at Ayot S. Peter's Church. The service, fully choral, was conducted by the Rev. Henry Jephson, M.A, rector of the parish, assisted by Rev. Arthur Peile, M.A., Master of S. Katherine's, uncle of the bridegroom. Capt. G. L. Holdsworth, 7th, Queen's Own) Hussars, gave his sister away. The bridesmaids, Misses Beryl and Mollie Burnand, nieces of the bride, were dressed in pale blue satin frocks, with white chiffon fichus and sashes, and large white satin hats. They carried bouquets of pink roses, and wore necklaces of Scotch Cairngorms set in gold, the gift of the bridegroom. The bride was attired in rich ivory duchesse satin, trimmed with chiffon and Milanes point lace, the gift of her mother, her tulle veil being arranged above a coronet of orange blossom. Her ornaments were diamonds, and she carried a choice shower bouquet of exotics. Mr. James Johnston Stewart, 93rd Highlanders, acted as bestman. Owing to mourning in the bridegroom's family only a few relatives and friends were present, including Mr. Holdworth, Captain Holdsworth, 7th (Q. O.) Hussars; Mr. Frank Holdsworth; Mrs. W. T. White; Mrs. W. L. White; Miss Holdsworth; Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Berkely Burnand; Mr. Mackenzie of Ord; Captain and Mrs. Douglas Hamilton; Miss Peile; Master of St. Katharine's and Mrs. Peile; Mrs. Bright; Mrs. Davidson, Countess of Cavan; Captain and Mrs. Pringle; Viscount and Viscountess Kilcoursie; Mr. H. T. and Lady Maud Barrett; Lady Ellen Lambart; Miss Barnes; Lady Lawrence; Hon. Maud Lawrence; Lady Cicely Gathorne-Hardy and the Misses Gathorne-Hardy; Lady Sandhurst; Mrs. Master, and Miss Still; Lady Adela Larking, and Miss Barker; Miss Larking; Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas; Mr. Pope; Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Loder; Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Balfour; the Rev. H. and Mr. Jephson; the Rev. H. and Mrs. Athill; Captain E. Crawley; Hon. Edward Lambart; Mrs Upton Robins.

The Church was profusely decorated with white flowers, the work of Miss Violet and Miss Muriel Gathorne-Hardy and the Misses Jephson. Shortly after four o'clock Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Mackenzie left for the West of England, where the honeymoon will be spent. The presents, numbering over 300, were numerous and costly.—

From the Inverness Courier.

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Football.

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70TH F. B. R. A. *Vs.* 93RD HIGHLANDERS.

THE above teams met on the Artillery ground on the 21st November, the encounter being a friendly one to test the capabilities of our team. From the commencement the Artillery out-paced our men, who made a very poor display indeed, until about the last quarter of an hour, when there was some improvement noticeable. The back division of the Artillery was, however, too good for our forward line, and the game resulted in a draw with one goal each. As a test match the game was decidedly unpromising, our men seeming to be devoid of all combination and training. Our team was as follows:—

Privates Daily, "H," Goal; Kerr, "C," and Kennedy, "E," (Backs); Lance-Corpls. Johnson, "C," Wilson, "A," and Corporal Watson, "F," (Half-backs); Ptes. Pollock, "D," Wilson "G," Cairns; "C," Henry, "B," and McDonald, "C," (Forwards.)

RETURN MATCH.

There was a decided improvement in the play noticeable in the return match between the same teams played on the home ground on the 23rd November, the result being three goals to *nil* in our favour. There was still room for improvement, however, and the same want of combination noticeable in the first match was still apparent. There was a slight difference in the composition of the team, some of the regular players being

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on duty, Privates Scott, "B," McLean, "E," (Backs), and Lance-Corporal Jamieson "G," (Inside right) taking the places of Privates Kerr, Kennedy and Wilson.

BENGAL-PUNJAB ARMY CUP

59TH EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT v. 93RD HIGHLANDERS.

The forebodings to which previous matches had given promise were unfortunately realised on the 29th, when in the first round of the Bengal-Punjab Army Cup Tournament the team of the East Lancashire Regiment secured a victory by one goal to *nil*.

The match was fixed punctually for 4 p.m., and before this hour had been sounded on any of the guard gongs the ball was kicked off, Our team losing the toss had to defend with the glare of the sun in their eyes, which somewhat handicapped them during the first twenty minutes play, but the sun was below the trees before the "Lilywhites" scored. Cairns started the ball for us, and travelling by the right a goal was almost registered before a couple of seconds of play, but the kick was not true, and the ball went behind. After this, the play became pretty general for a short time, but eventually the superior speed of the Lancastrians told, and several determined attempts were made to score without effect, Daily being very cool in goal and the backs also doing well. At last just before the whistle blew a goal was rushed, and the teams rested for "half time," On re-starting our team played somewhat better, attempts being made to equalise, but the shooting was somewhat erratic, and the forwards were not always where they should have been. The Lancashire also returned the compliment a few times, but our goal was well defended. About ten minutes before the end our team got four successive corners, and the 93rd supporters' hopes ran high, but none could be put to better account, and after some pretty crowded play the 59th cleared, and in turn also secured a couple of corners. Soon afterwards the whistle sounded, and a somewhat painful suspense was over. The score stood :—

East Lancashire Regiment	1
93rd Highlanders	0

Victory to the "Lilywhites" was certainly by only a small margin, and on the play of our team it might have been much larger, still the winners deserve the greatest praise for their play. All the Lancashire team seemed to play a good game! They were swift, and the forwards in comparison to ours, were heavy. The few men of our team who were conspicuous were the goal-keeper and backs, who played steadily. Corporal Watson, who was the only useful man in his division, and the centre forward who tried his best to score. Lieutenant Toogood, Border Regiment, acted referee, and the teams were as follow :—

59th LILYWHITES.

WHALEY.
CATON. JENKINSON.
WADE. BRYCE (Captain.) CHAPMAN.
ROWAN BOOTH.
McGINNESS. CORPL. DAVEY. GOOSE.
McDONALD, "C." CAIRNS, "C." POLLOCK, "D"
HENRY "B," LCE.-CPL., JAMIESON, "G."
CPL. WATSON, "F," LCE.-CPL. JOHNSON "C."
LCE.-CORPL., WILSON "A."
SCOTT, "B" KERR, "C."
DAILY "H."

93RD HIGHLANDERS.

———: o :———

Marriage of Captain Darroch and Miss Boughey.

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THE marriage between Captain Duncan Darroch, 93rd Highlanders, younger of Gourock and Toridon, and Miss Lizzie Boughey, second daughter of Colonel G. F. O. Boughey, C.S.I., late R. E., took place on October 1st at St. Jude's Church, Courtfield Gardens, London. The officiating clergymen were the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, M.A., Fellow and Senior Dean of Trinity College, Cambridge, uncle of the bride; the Rev. C. S. P. Darroch, M.A., rector of Medstead, Hants, uncle of the bridegroom; and the Rev. Prebendary Eardley-Wilmot, M.A., vicar of the parish. The bride wore white satin, trimmed with pearls and Honiton lace, a tulle veil, and real orange blossoms. Her ornaments were a diamond tiara, the gift of the parents of the bridegroom; a diamond star given her by the bridegroom, and an antique pearl locket which had been worn by her great-grandmother at her wedding about a century ago. The bridegroom and his best man, Mr. John Campbell, 93rd Highlanders, younger of Kilberry, were both in uniform. The bride was attended by six little children in white satin and blue, three boys and three girls. The two bridesmaids, Miss Ethel Boughey, cousin of the bride, and Miss Helen Darroch, sister of the bridegroom, wore Gainsborough costumes, white satin dresses, blue sashes, white chiffon fichus, and large black velvet hats with ostrich feathers.

The Provost, Magistrates, and Chairman of the three popularly-elected public Boards of Gourock sent to the bridegroom an address of hearty congratulation and good wishes. The address contains the following sentences :—

"We avail ourselves of this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the pleasant relations which have existed between the inhabitants of Gourock and the Superior's family ever since the estate came into their possession, now over a century ago, and further desire to

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place on record our appreciation of the ready and willing co-operation of your honoured and respected father in all public movements which had for their aim the welfare and happiness of the whole community.

"We share with your family the joy and pleasure with which the recent rapid development of the town must be viewed, and we remember with unmingled pleasure that your grandfather contributed directly towards this development during his occupancy of the Provost's chair in 1863 and 1864. We recognise that the prosperity of Gourock, the welfare of its inhabitants, and the interests of your family are identical, and we assure you that it is the sincere desire of the inhabitants of Gourock that you may be long spared to adorn your high position in life and that every blessing may attend yourself and the lady of your choice."

The Torridon people erected five bonfires, which, on the evening of the wedding, made the loch as bright as day, in honour of Captain and Mrs Darroch.—*From the Inverness Courier.*

——: o :——

Temperance at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

SHAHJEHANPUR had two celebrations on Balaclava Day, for in addition to the Balaclava Dinner in the Sergeant's Mess the A. T. A. had arranged a tea and concert to celebrate the anniversary of the "Thin Red Line." The use of the regimental theatre was obtained for the occasion, and this was tastefully decorated, the committee deserving the greatest praise for everything. Tea was punctually served at 6-30 P. M., and after full justice had been done to the tea an interval was allowed to the committee in which to prepare the hall for the concert. Corporal Ballantyne opened the programme punctually at 8 by introducing Mr. Blackstock of the Methodist Mission who made a short address, advising all never to tire or be discouraged in the good work which all were engaged in. The energetic secretary of the Wing branch also spoke a few words during the evening, some of his remarks being somewhat severe upon not a few. A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close about the hour of midnight by the company rising and singing "Auld Lang Syne," followed by the "Queen."

* * * * *

The members of the branch association have been greatly interested in the results of a card competition which was commenced during the early part of the month, and entered into with great spirit by a large number of the members. There were some most exciting games, the following being the results of the finals.

Cibbage	...	Corporal Harvey beat Private Bain.
Dron ...	...	... { Privates Bateman and McGuire beat McColl and Gillon.
Beizque	...	Private Mansfield beat Private Duncan.

March of the second party from Chaubattia.

—o—

THE weather on the morning of the 5th at Chaubattia was not nearly so wintry as it had been on the previous day, and as the second party was not to march at such an early hour as the first had done, there was no necessity for the usual ante-reville movement, and that most charming of all occupations, the loading of the obstreperous *oont* with benumbed fingers, by the light of a *bazar*-made hurricane lamp. Soon after seven however, the baggage was well on the road to the first camp, and by 8 o'clock the men had breakfasted, and were ready to fall in, and half an hour after this were stepping along briskly to the pipes and drums. The road taken to the first camp was, from the head of the "Corkscrew Road," merely a goat track, and led along a spur running due south from the main Chaubattia hill in the direction of Khairna. This route must have lessened the journey by at least four miles, the main road not being touched until opposite Bamshan, where the path made a rapid and steep descent through a village on to the main cart-road. Here a halt was made, and the ranks were closed up, marching over the hills having been necessarily in single file; there was no half-way house this day, the coffee shop from the Standing Camp, which was to have supplied the wants of the party, having stationed itself on the road about a mile back: the peaceful *buniah* entrusted with the catering not having apparently made any allowance for the Highlanders "*khud* hopping" propensities. Camp was reached about 12, some two hours or so before the arrival of the two companies of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, who had marched from the Standing Camp, and whose arrival made the party complete.

The remaining marches were fairly easy stages, and were done in capital time and form, our detachment and the Cornwall Light Infantry alternately leading. The pleasures of marching were greatly enhanced by the fact that there were no tents to pitch upon arrival in the different camps the first party moving down from the hills (the two companies of the Derbyshire Regiment from Deolikhet) having arranged all these little matters a month or so beforehand. The pleasure of striking camp too at each resting place was left to the last party moving along the road, so upon arrival in camp there was little to do during the afternoon, but attend to one's own belongings, and gracefully slumber, as no one had been thoughtful enough to include a football among his list of necessaries.

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Leaving the Brewery Camp at Naini Tal the serious nature of the landslip, which had taken place there last August, could be easily seen, the whole side of a hill seeming to have given way, and in falling to have filled up a *nullah* and entombed buildings on the opposite side. The iron bridge over the *nullah* which we crossed going up to the hills last April had also been destroyed, and at present there is merely a temporary wooden structure to take the traffic.

The remains of the Brewery buildings which were not entirely destroyed, are surrounded by the shaly debris of the slip, on the edge of the newly-formed *nullah*, through which rushes a mountain stream of dirty, discoloured water: backed by the dark grey of the background, the remains of the hill which slipped, the scene presents very much the appearance of a Pit Head in some Colliery District at home, and hardly suggests a proximity to one of the prettiest and most fashionable of Indian Hill Stations.

The last day's march to Rani Bagh was along the bridle path, which must have been at least five miles shorter than the Tonga Road, camp being reached about mid-day. The distance by this short cut was only some eight and three quarter miles, and one of the most picturesque marches that it would be possible to do even in the hills, the road was almost a perpetual avenue, with a glimpse here and there of deep and wide *nullah*, or precipitous rock. All heavy baggage was taken to the station at Kathgodam over-night and loaded in the train, the detachment entraining next morning, 9th November, about 9 A.M. At Bhojupura Junction the Cornwall Light Infantry were detached *en route* for Lucknow, whilst our party continued on to Bareilly arriving about noon.

W.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant.—No 1484, Lance-Sergeant A. Watters, "C" Company, dated 1st July 1898. No. 3581, Lance-Sergeant F. Beavis, "G" Company, dated 12th November.

To be Corporal.—No. 5021, Lance-Corporal G. Duncan, "E" Company, dated 6th July 1898; No. 2736, Corporal W. Hall, "G" Company, dated 26th September 1898. No. 3885 Lance-Corporal E. Mahoney, "C" Company, dated 12th November.

PAY OF RANK.

Lance-Sergeants.—No. 3077, Lance-Sergeant C. Johnstone, "B" Company, dated 1st July, 1898. No. 3144, Lance-Sergeant W. G. Olden, "H" Company, dated 12th November.

Lance-Corporals—No. 5842, Lance-Corporal R. Glass, "E" Company, dated 19th September; No. 4102, Lance-Corporal F. Marklew, "C" Company; No. 4311, Lance-Corporal A. Wight, "C" Company, dated 24th September; No. 2810, Lance-Corporal W. Wilcocks, "A" Company; No. 4579, Lance-Corporal W. Benson, "G" Company; No. 5500, Lance-Corporal H. Sear, "H" Company, dated 26th September. No. 5885, Lance-Corporal W. Morrison, "G" Company; No. 5484, Lance-Corporal Ure, "B" Company, dated 12th November 1898.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Quarter-Master Sergeant, Left Wing—No. 3116, Sergeant W. R. Weller, "E" Company.

To be Prov. Lance-Corporal—No. 5667, Pte. A. Goddard, "A" Company, while employed on Regimental Police, dated 18th November 1898.

To be Drill Sergeant—No. 3037, Sergeant G. Arnott, B" Company.

To be Drill Corporal—No. 3611, Corporal A. Maskell, "B" Company.

To be Band Corporal—No. 2736, Corporal W. Hall, "G" Company.

To be Drummer—No. 5042, Private D. Gibbon, "B" Company.

To be Acting Bandsman—No. 3749, Private A. Hollands' "B" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2*d.* per diem—

"A" Company.

No. 4531, Pte. C. Armour. | No. 3818, Pte. J. Leitch.
No. 4773, Lance-Corporal A. Wilson.

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"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4581, Pte. J. Scott.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4571, Pte. J. Hiddles.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 4044, Pte. A. McDougal.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 4525, Pte. R. Scott. | No. 4509, Pte. A. McNeill.
No. 4427, Pte. W. Murphy.

No. 4537, Pte. W. Patterson.
„ 4558, „ G. Ross.
„ 4584, „ W. McLaughlin.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4567, Lce.-Cpl. D. Inglis.
„ 4579, „ W. Benson.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 4574, Pte. J. Martin.

Restored 2d. per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3853, Pte. G. Buchanan.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4210, Pte. D. Stewart.

Granted 1d. per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 5598, Pte. J. Mitchell.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 4650, Pte. D. Hutchinson.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 4426, Pte. A. Taggart.
No. 5966, Pte. R. Moir.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 5906, Pte. D. Fyffe. | No. 4463, Pte. R. Frew.
No. 5897, Pte. J. McGoughan.
853, Pte. J. Brown.
08, „ J. McKenzie.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 5945, Pte. A, McCrae.
„ 5948, „ D. Halley.
„ 5478, „ H. Daily.
„ 5949, „ J. McGillivray.

Restored 1d. per diem :—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 3872, Pte. J. Gray. | No. 3791, Pte. J. Adams.

B" *Company.*

No. 4223, Pte. J. Hutton.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 5356, Pte. J. Leitch.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4313, Pte. J. Ferguson.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 3789, Pte. W. Goff. | No. 4231, Pte. J. Fox.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 5243, Pte. H. Lawrie.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

No. 6709, to Private G. Scarff, "A" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years' service :—

No. 3187, Sergeant F. W. Baldwin—Unattached List.

To complete 12 years with the Colours :—

No. 3144, Lance-Sergeant W. G. Olden, "H" Company.
„ 5042, Drummer D. Gibbon, "B" „
„ 4183, Pte. J. Burke, "D" „
„ 1623, Private J. McNulty, "A" „
„ 3941, „ J. Leister, "A" „
„ 3852, „ D. Campbell, "A" „
„ 6121, Drummer W. Stevens, "H" „

NURSING CERTIFICATES.

The undermentioned have been granted Certificates for efficiency in nursing :—

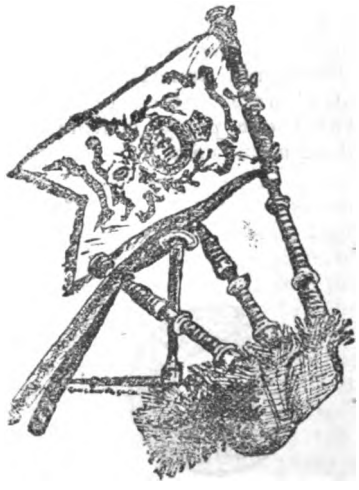
No. 5564, Private R. McNee, "H" Company.
„ 5878, „ A. Dickson, "G" „
„ 5457, „ J. Morton, "G" „
„ 5248, „ J. Orr, "D" „
„ 3921, „ J. Blackwood, "C" „
„ 5052, „ R. Hunter, "B" „
„ 5356, „ J. Leitch, "C" „

TRANSFERS.

To Mussoorie Voluntcer Rifle Corps as 2nd *Class Sergeant Instructor.*—No. 3005, Sergeant A MacDonald, "A" Company.

From Unattached List.—No. 5921, Colour Sergeant R. Gilmour and posted to "C" Company.

From "C" to "G" Company.—No. 6703, Pte. W. Houston.



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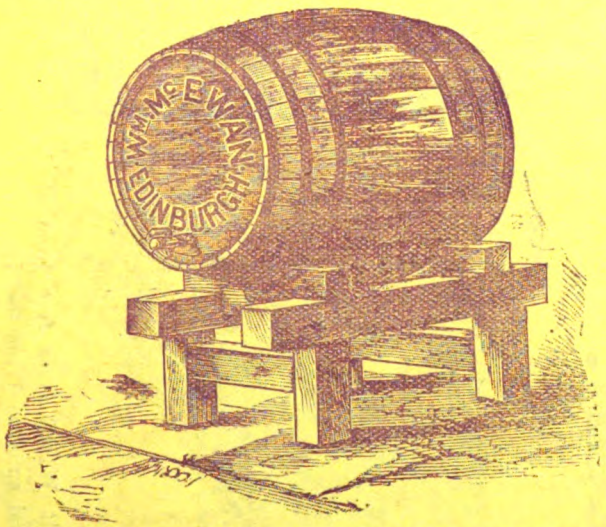

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Rs. 34-4 Per Dozen.

Rs. 34-4 Per Dozen.

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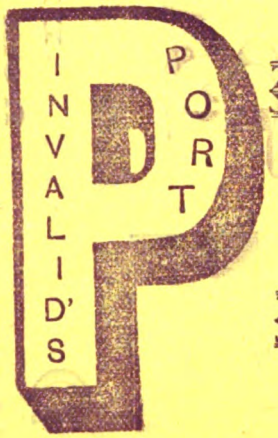

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Professor CASSAL has analysed our Invalid's Wine, and his certificate of purity is attached to every bottle we ship. Our Wine has fraudulent imitations, we therefore ask that those who order this particular Wine of ours should see that the bottles bear the Professor's name in addition to our own.

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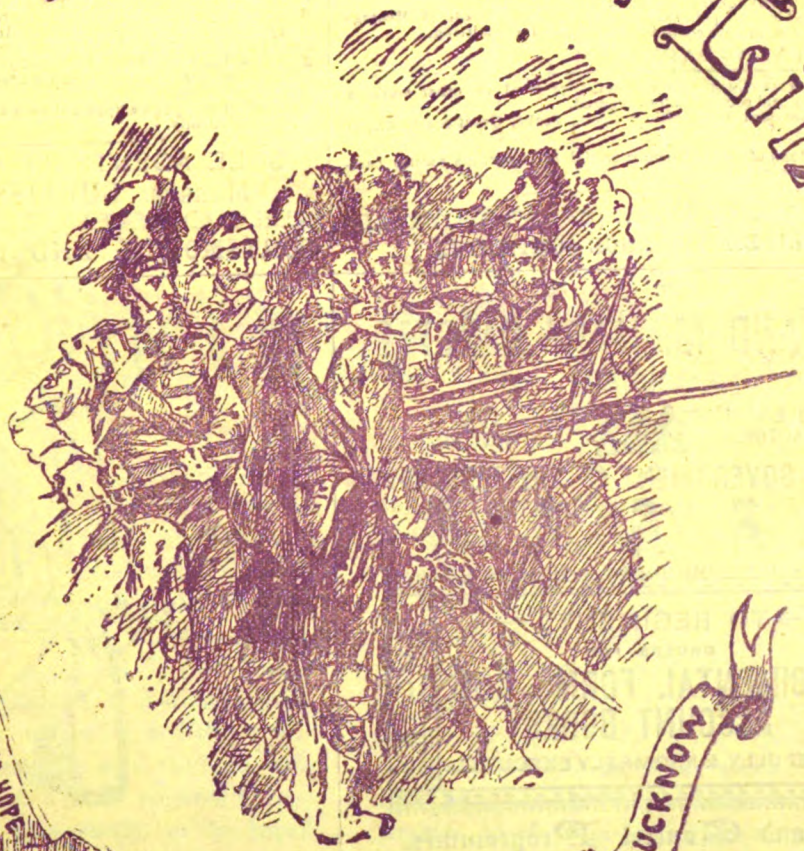
The Thin Red Line.



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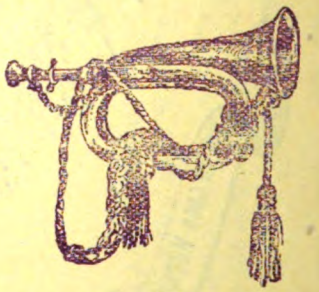

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 8—Vol. IV. BAREILLY,—JANUARY 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

IT is with great regret that we hear of a severe accident which befell Colonel P. D. Trotter near Selkirk quite lately. Colonel Trotter was, it appears, driving a somewhat restive animal, which took fright at something, and threw the occupants of the dog-cart out on to the road, with the result that Colonel Trotter received a very severe fracture. It is sincerely to be hoped that the accident may not be so severe as was at first thought, and we are sure we are only echoing the sympathy of all readers of the "Thin Red Line" when we wish Colonel Trotter a speedy recovery.

Since arriving in Bareilly "Retreat" has sounded half an hour later than it did at Chaubattia, twilight, or at least the Indian apology for it, not coming on quite so early in the plains as in higher latitudes. Tuesdays and Fridays are still the days on which the pipes and drums play "Reveille," "Retreat" and "Tattoo," and the band, in addition to playing at the Mess and Coffee-shop, as usual, are on duty at the Bareilly Club every Wednesday afternoon.

* * * * *

During the early part of last month there was quite an epidemic of field days, chiefly for the purpose of passing field officers for promotion to higher command. On the 2nd December there was a parade for manœuvre at 7 A. M., when assisted by some of the gunners the wing took up a strong, though somewhat extended, position south of the Shahjehanpur railway line. Here the four companies were attacked by the remainder of the garrison, and were, of course, compelled to retire. The "tactical" exercise was soon over, however, and all were back in barracks just after nine o'clock.

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On the 12th the wing was out again somewhat early, but the weather threatened rain, and a drizzle commenced almost as soon as barracks were left. It cleared up somewhat afterwards however, and we had taken up a position covering the ford at Hurroo Nagla on the Bareilly-Bisalpur road, when orders were received to return to quarters. On the way back we were again caught in a smart shower, and reached barracks in a somewhat damp condition.

* * * * *

On the following day the scheme of yesterday was repeated, and the weather being all that could be wished there was a full morning's work. The same defensive position as on the previous day was taken up by the wing, and the East Lancashire Regiment and 12th Bengal Infantry formed the attacking force. Both forces had a squadron or so of the 8th Bengal Cavalry as scouts, but these had no distinguishing mark, and it was somewhat difficult to distinguish friend from foe; in fact almost at the commencement a small party of the enemy's cavalry nearly succeeded in carrying off our general staff, and it could only have been providence that saved the defending force from this inconceivable disaster.

The attacking force, well under cover of standing crops, advanced from the direction of Bareilly city, over the ground on which, we believe, the ever memorable battle of Bareilly was fought some forty years ago, and the "cease fire" sounded about 11 o'clock. The wing then formed up, as was thought, to march home, but about a mile on the road these hopes were unpleasantly dispelled: the band was stopped, and orders were received to take up another position in the neighbourhood of the Native Infantry lines covering the Shahjehanpur road. Here under cover of a deep ditch and bank attack was again awaited from across the rifle ranges, and the offensive, in the form of a charge, was eventually assumed, which, as far as we were concerned, concluded the day's proceedings. It was about two o'clock before home was reached, and our cavalry were sent, presumably in pursuit, when the wing marched home, so the "enemy" were apparently out somewhat longer.

* * * * *

On Thursday, the 15th, there was another manœuvre day with the wing, in white helmets as a distinguishing mark, again as the defending force; the defending cavalry, after the lesson of the last day, were also in white. This day there was a march of some five or six miles down the Shahjehanpur road to the position, and in marching to take up the ground we had a pleasant surprise in being called upon to "Shoulder" to General Egerton, who was an interested spectator of the morning's proceedings. Except for a longish wait for the attack to commence, the field day was a short one, and we were back in barracks by about the dinner hour.

Having been robbed of our Thursday, the next day, Friday, was observed as a holiday.

* * * * *

The event of the month was, of course, the visit of our kindly Brigadier of Tochi days, Brigadier-General C. C. Egerton, C. B., D. S. O., A.-D. C., who was on a visit to Bareilly to see his old Corps, the 8th Bengal Cavalry, before they went out to join the Southern army in the extensive cavalry manœuvres which are to take place between Delhi and Umballa this winter. On two successive evenings before General Egerton's actual arrival the Sergeants and a few others, who knew of his expected visit had congregated on the road near the fort here, to cheer him as he passed from the railway station; on neither occasion were their efforts rewarded, however, and it was not until marching to take up position on the field day of the 15th December that the men knew of their late popular Brigadier's presence in the station.

On the following evening (Friday) General Egerton dined with the officers, and on the next day, Saturday, honoured the Sergeants' Mess with a visit. Here he was received by Bandmaster Davies, in the absence of the Sergeant-Major, who was unavoidably absent owing to his recent bereavement, and the Sergeants of the wing. General Egerton, who was accompanied by Major

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Campbell, Colonel Goff being on the sick list, was offered the "quaich" in which he toasted the Sergeants and the regiment, and then it was proposed to immortalise his visit by the photographer's art. This was quickly arranged and grouped around their distinguished visitor, the Sergeants of the head-quarter wing made a most interesting picture to hand down to future generations of the Ninety-third. After the photograph had been taken General Egerton was toasted in Gaelic by the Pipe-Major, and the Mess-room re-echoed with cheers at his departure.

* * * * *

Previously General Egerton had kindly presented the Sergeants' Mess with a copy of his portrait similar to the one already possessed by officers.

* * * * *

The companies of the head-quarter wing have, since arriving at Bareilly, been able to complete table B of their Annual Musketry Course, which was not possible in Chaubattia. Comparisons are, of course, hardly possible owing to the different conditions under which different companies fire, but "B" Company have about the best record in the field practices fired here.

A small party of casuals has also been exercised, which makes the musketry training of the battalion for 1898-99 almost complete. Brigade field firing, which will probably take place some time during next month, is all that is now left for us to enjoy in the musketry direction until the 1st April proclaims another season.

* * * * *

The left wing from Shahjehanpur joined us on Tuesday, 20th ultimo, arriving about dinner time. Head-quarters paraded in the morning of this date for route marching, and the two parties meeting on the Shahjehanpur road came into barracks together. The "Liver" wing although not numerically strong, looked very fit, and compared in this respect quite favourably with their comrades at head-quarters, who had had the advantage of summering on the hills.

* * * * *

The past month has seen the majority of our time-expired men on the first stage of their homeward journey, and as no draft has as yet joined us, though one of some eighty non-commissioned officers and men will shortly land at Bombay, we are at the present time considerably below our proper strength.

* * * * *

This trooping season has unfortunately been particularly severe upon the "Thin Yin." In the early part of the season we lost the oldest member of the staff, and now with its close, fate, and the short service system, has robbed us of our most original, if not our most consistent, contributor. Under many a different *nom de plume* Private D. C. Macgregor has contributed largely to our columns, and the originality and variety of his many departures was unlimited. It will be a long time, we feel sure, before any one will be found capable of describing the ordinary every-day occurrences of our regimental life in the amusing way he did, and his loss to the "Thin Red Line" will, we fear, be irreparable.

* * * * *

The day before the departure of some T. E. details the following hand-bill printed in many different coloured pencils adorned the notice board in the canteen :—

LET 'EM ALL COME!

GRAND SMOKING CONCERT, 2ND ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS' CANTEEN.

CHAIRMAN ... ... PTE. D. C. MACGREGOR.

MONDAY, 19TH DECEMBER 1898.

KICK-OFF ... ... 6-15 P.M. SHARP.

THE KISWASTI BAND WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE.

MUSICAL CONDUCTOR ... ... AULD NED.

SPECIAL REDUCTIONS.

BEER ... ... ONLY 4 ANNAS PER QUART.

SHANDY ... ... ESKAMOPHET.

(SPELLING NOT STRICTLY GUARANTEED).

TOBACCO MAY BE CUT ON THE PREMISES,

ON IT! ON IT!

NO EGGS ADMITTED OVER 12 MONTHS OF AGE: TICKETS MAY BE OBTAINED IN THE USUAL MANNER (FROM THE SHROFF).

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS APPLY TO BUNGY ROWE.

"AULD LANG SYNE" WILL BE SUNG IN THE GUARD-ROOM AT 12-15 M.N.

AM I DRUNK, SERGEANT?—TAKE OFF HIS BOOTS.

Unfortunately we had no reporter available for duty on this occasion, and are therefore denied the pleasure of furnishing our readers with a full description of the entertainment. Judging

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however, from the sounds wafted to the Editorial sanctum between the hours of seven and nine P.M. on the night in question the concert was an unqualified success.

* * * * *

Our representatives at the Bengal Presidency Rifle Association Meeting at Meerut did not, unfortunately, make such a record there as might have been wished. Despite some excellent individual scores there were no cup winners among them, and the majority had to content themselves with a few minor prizes. The firing-off competition at the meeting this year was, we believe, better than on any previous occasion, especially that of the Volunteers who in future will be classified among themselves, and will not compete in individual matches with their brethren of the line. To give some idea of the excellence of the shooting in the "unlimited" matches, anything less than a "possible" was useless for a good prize, and "thirty fours" were frequently "counted out" in a prize list of thirty. The pleasure of watching shooting of this kind is, however, an education in itself, and our competitors there have not gained the less from their non-success.

* * * * *

Christmas week passed off quite quietly as usual. There was the regulation holiday, and the few who were inclined to celebrate the festival did so in a very unostentatious manner. Other corps in the station, the 70th F. B., R. A., East Lancashire and Border Regiments, amongst whom many of our men seemed to find a considerable number of old and esteemed friends, had their usual jollifications, but this was all, and except for the amount of live poultry, in a more or less advanced stage of fattening, about the bungalows and cook-houses, there was very little to denote the coming of the festive season.

* * * * *

On the last day of the old year, however, things began to look more hopeful; the fattening poultry had very materially decreased, leaving only the fluffy remnants of their plucking to be blown about barracks, which looked seasonable, and brought to mind the ancient legend of childhood days. Numerous extra fires, too, began to smoulder round about the cook-houses at all times of the day and night, and around these anxious throngs constantly gathered. There was also the not unusual symptom of disinclination to attend morning parade, all pointing to the proximity of the season of the New Year.

* * * * *

On Hogmanay the Sergeants, according to custom, commenced their usual smoking concert soon after nine o'clock, and at mid-night the band pipes and drums played "A guid New Year tae ane an' a" across the parade ground, concluding outside the Sergeants' Mess. The New Year was then toasted in the usual fashion, healths were drunk, good wishes for '99 passed, and after about half an hour of reels, strathspeys, quicksteps, two-fours and six-eights the company dispersed.

* * * * *

Men who were inclined to the new messing muddle, but were somewhat undecided owing to there being the likelihood of losing tu'pence a day deferred pay when on the reserve, may rest content, as it has been ruled by Government that "a soldier now serving with the colours who elects the messing rules and hereafter joins the reserve will be entitled to deferred pay as formerly for service in the reserve."

This concession having been made, and the payment being in cash, the majority of the battalion have elected to the new rules. A re-consideration of the clauses relating to the payment of the *bonus* to men leaving on pension and to the extension of it to 21 years in favour of sergeants is all that is now necessary.

* * * * *

Our old friends, the Buffs, now rusticating at Kamptee, were not forgetful of the season of good-will, a wire from the Sergeants wishing "A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all" being received by our Sergeants' Mess on Christmas Eve. A suitable reply was wired in return.

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Regimental Christmas cards, being a novelty, rather took on this year, a pretty considerable number being disposed of over the counter of the Grocery Bar. The Sergeants' Mess sent cards with greetings to most Scottish Regiments and a few others, and cards were received from The Black Watch, 2nd Gordon Highlanders, King's Own Scottish Borderers, Cameronians, Royal Scots Fusiliers and Highland Light Infantry Sergeants, and also from an officer who has not forgotten the corps from whose ranks he rose, Captain T. H. M. Green of the Derbyshire Regiment.

* * * * *

The battalion being all together again, cricket and football, especially the latter game, have been flourishing apace. Nearly every evening sees a football match, and the cricket clock has already been lost and won, returning after four seasons to the left half battalion. "G" Company gained a hollow victory in the final, and carried off the clock in triumph. The football championship being a league affair is a more lengthy business, and the last matches will not be played until the middle of this month. At the present time "G" and "F" are the favourites, and the former company have the best possible chance of a double first.

* * * * *

The finals of the Punjab-Bengal Army Cup are not to be decided in Bareilly, despite the many rumours to that effect current during last month. The matches are to be played at Umballa as on previous years, and the following are the teams left in for the finals, which will commence on the 25th of this month :—
East Lancashire Regiment play North Staffords, Black Watch play Royal Scots Fusiliers, Somerset Light Infantry play Oxford Light Infantry and Cornwall Light Infantry the York and Lancaster Regiment.

* * * *

In the Murray Cup tournament we are to meet the East Lancashire Regiment again, and as the first round has to be decided by the 25th instant the result will necessarily be known long before the publication of this number.

Company tug-of-war teams are just commencing to think about exerting themselves, for the possession of Captain McKerrell's Shield for another period is shortly to be decided. At present "H" Company are the holders, having won it in 1896, since when, owing to many things, particularly field service, and more recently the splitting up of the battalion, the possession of the trophy has not been contested. Once again, however, are loins being girt up and the practice gives promise of some tenacious pulls.

* * * *

The Rohilkhand District assault-at-arms may be expected to take place some time during February, too, when all this preliminary training would be of some use in selecting a team to represent the battalion. In this there is almost sure to be an inter-regimental tug-of-war when the battalion will necessarily have to look to its laurels.

* * * *

It is almost time, too, that Captain Moulton Barrett's Physical Drill Shield was thought about. This has remained in the possession of "F" Company since first being competed for in 1895, the same reasons which have delayed the inter-company tugs-of-war having interfered with the training of physical drill teams. With the battalion all together again however, there should be no excuse, and the training of eight squads of twenty men each must materially add to the efficiency of some one hundred and sixty odd men or so.

* * * *

The sirkar is becoming very good to us in our old age. There is a proposal on foot to issue free, to all men who enlisted before April 1891, a jersey. Men enlisted subsequent to that date are in possession of one, having been issued with it on enlistment, but the older and apparently hardier soldiers have up to the present been without this, in winter, comfortable and almost necessary article of clothing. A recent circular to Officers Commanding has called for numbers and probable cost of free issue to any of their men not already in possession of a jersey.

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The following officers of the Unattached List joined us for twelve months' probation before being sent to join a Native Corps :—

2nd-Lieutenants Eckford, Craster, and Hon. A. C. Murray.

2nd-Lieutenant McPherson has also joined the battalion.

* * * * *

The building of the new church at Chaubattia, the foundation of which was nearly ready when head-quarters left there last year, has stopped, as it is not improbable that within a few years a full battalion may be located there for the summer months when the proposed new Church would be as inadequate as the present dwarf structure. A committee is, we believe, to assemble there during the early part of this year, which will select sites for future bungalows and generally decide Chaubattia's future. No doubt by the time the left wing arrive at their summer quarters, improvements in the shape of verandahs will have been added to all the bungalows there, as these additions had been commenced to some of the buildings before our departure from Chaubattia last autumn.

The Military Works Department are also progressing with the new quarters for the Commanding Officer, which are situated below the band in a much better position than occupied by the bungalow at present allotted to the Officer Commanding.

* * * *

Lieutenant Johnston-Stewart's leave home has been extended to the 17th of February on medical certificate.

* * * *

Among New Year greetings the following has been received :—

"To—The Editor of the 'Thin Red Line.'

"Colonel Fetherstonhaugh wishes the Editor and readers of the 'Thin Red Line' many happy New Years."

We feel sure our readers will unite with us in returning the seasonable compliment to our late Commanding Officer.

Theatricals.

—o—

There was an entertainment in the Outram Institute under the management of Private D. C. Macgregor, on the nights of Tuesday and Wednesday, 6th and 7th December, when the following programme was placed on the boards :—

PROGRAMME.

OVERTURE.

String Band, 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

1. *Song* ... "Their Heads nestled close together." Private SHORT.
2. *Comic Song* "Jean McDade, the Laundry Maid." Drummer BURNS.
3. *Song* ... ... "She was standing on the Quay." Bandsman BENSON.
4. *Comic Song* "Up I went to have a look at 'em." Lance-Corporal LYONS.
5. *Clog Dancing* ... ... Private LEE, East Lancashire Regiment.
6. *Ventriloquial Entertainment* ... ... Private BARNARD.
7. *Song* ... "Only one girl in the world for me." Private SHORT.
8. *Highland Dancing* ... ... "Ghillie Callum." Piper MCLEAN.
9. *Comic Song* ... ... "The Penny Whistler." Private BARNARD.
10. *Indian Club Swinging* ... ... Private COOPER.
11. *Song* ... ... "The Bugler." Bandsman BENSON.
12. *Top Boot Dancing* ... ... Private LEE.
13. *Exhibition Boxing* ... ... Private ROBSON, East Lancashires and Lance-Corporal MARKLEW.

SELECTION, STRING BAND.

The whole concluding with the ague-aggravating, dingy-dispelling original Burlesque entitled

"WILL THE WOODCUTTER

AND

THE MAID HE WOO'D."

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Sir Peter Pumpkin	A Gouty old Baron	Pte. D. C. MACGREGOR.
Duke de Shandigaff	An Amorous Aristocrat	„ C. ARMOUR.
Will the Woodcutter	Of doubtful parentage	„ W. BARNARD.
Shanks	Sir Peter's Valet	„ J. SHORT.
Milly	A giddy young thing	Miss A. HOWARD.

INCIDENTAL SONGS.

"Who meet him at the Garden Gate."
"The Cage is empty."
"Up came Johnnie with his Camera."

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

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Most of the songs were very good; the ventriloquist was, as usual, excellent, and Private Lee of the Lancashires danced well, but the house was indifferently filled and there was that absence of swing which denotes a successful performance. The burlesque from the pen of the manager was not fresh to the majority of the audience, it having first been produced at Chaubattia, and this detracted somewhat from the success of the piece. Its ill-success was, however, unfortunate, as no one has probably done more for "Gaffs" in the regiment than Private Macgregor, and it seems a great pity that the last performance in which he took part, and which was for his benefit, should not have been an unqualified success.

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Military Dialogues.

—·o—

The Safety of the Army.

The camp of the Southern Fusiliers on a range of downs. The men having breakfasted have fallen in, the tents have been struck and packed. The companies, in quarter column, are standing easy, and the officers are formed into little knots chatting. The Colonel is away at headquarters receiving instructions as to the day's operations. Presently he is seen cantering up the slope, and the regiment is called to "attention." The officers' call is sounded, and the officers gather round the Colonel and are told the general scheme and the part the regiment is expected to play in it.

The Colonel (*concluding*): Thus you see, gentlemen, we are on the extreme flank of the position, a flank owing to the nature of the ground, quite *en l'air* except for the meagre natural obstruction of a fordable brook; and should the attack develop on that side, our duty will be to prevent the regiment in the first place, and the whole force in the second, from being outflanked and the communications threatened. The safety of the army, as the General remarked just now, is in our hands. (*To the Adjutant*): What companies are in front?

The Adjutant: C and D, sir.

The Colonel: What officers are with them?

The Adjutant: Only Mr. Parker, sir. Captain Forbes is on the sick list, Captain Dawson at the Staff College, and Mr. Willings with mounted infantry.

The Colonel: Um, ah, well. A young officer cannot learn to have a responsible command too soon. When we arrive on the ground, Mr. Parker, you will take C and D, and hold this knoll marked here "tumulus" on the map. Make the best disposition you can, hold it to the last gasp if you are attacked; remember that in holding this detached post you cover our extreme flank, and that the safety of an army is in your hands. Fall in, gentlemen.

The regiment marches off, one of the thin lines of red that are trickling over the green of the downs, and arrives at its position. Mr. Parker then marches off the two companies, makes an inspiriting address to the non-commissioned officers and men, and finishes by telling them that every nerve should be strained, every faculty kept alert, every thought bent on the business of the day, for on them depends the safety of an army. He then puts the men into position.

Private M. Costigan (*lying down on the grass*): It's a fine orator that Parker would make.

Private E. Brown: 'E's a beggar to jaw.

Private P. Holles: Wonder if there'll be any beer in the canteen when we gets back?

Private E. Brown: Ah! cockie you've copped the nut there. A pint a man's better than all the blooming armies in the world.

A Sergeant: Not so much talking there.

The Colonel canters up. Mr. Parker goes to him and salutes.

The Colonel: Ah, um, yes. Your distribution seems to me to be all right. I told you that the safety of the army? Yes, I remember I did. Explained everything to the men I hope. Er—yes. I hope you know your "Part X.—Rules for the Conduct of Field Manœuvres" thoroughly.

Mr. Parker: Yes, sir, and I've got a copy of Part X in my pocket.

The Colonel: Very good, very good indeed. I like seeing a young officer so keen. Remember—hold your position to the last gasp.

The Colonel rides away, and a long pause ensues, with nothing for the men to do except loll about on the grass. Somewhere behind the downs opposite a gun fires three shots to mark the commencement of the action. Some spectators come up, and are warned off by Mr. Parker, who tells them that their presence will draw the attention of the enemy to his position. They go off making disparaging remarks about all officers, and young officers especially. Mr. Parker, in a fever of enthusiasm, watches the downs opposite to him and a little wood and stream on his flank very carefully through his glasses.

Private E. Brown: It's marching up a blooming 'cart-breaking 'ill, and marching down again, and then up t'other side, and dirtying your rifle all for nothink, and seeing nothink nor nobdy when you're firing volleys and when you gits back to camp it's dinners when it ought to be tea, and you fills up your stommick with a pint of dirty water—that's what manœuvres is.

Private P. Holles: Ah! On hactif service you do get a chance of 'aving the satisfaction of getting your baynit into t'other chap's guts.

Private M. Costigan: And then there's the loot, boys.

A Sergeant: Keep your mouths a bit quiet there.

Suddenly from nowhere in particular, a gunner officer with a white band on his right arm comes spurring up the hill. Mr. Parker eagerly goes to meet him.

The Gunner Officer: Are you aware, sir, that your men have been under fire from a battery of artillery for a good ten minutes?

Mr. Parker: No, sir. Where?

The Gunner Officer: It is not my duty to find you in eyes. Have you watched that road over the downs?

Mr. Parker (*looking through his glasses*): There's something black and white up there.

The Gunner Officer: That's the guns, as you ought to know, and firing at infantry. They are on the road and are not allowed to fire any rounds. What formation do you intend to take? I shall have to order you back.

At this moment a second Gunner Officer comes spurring up from behind, almost riding over some of the men on the grass.

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THE SECOND GUNNER (*to the first one*): Have you come from over there?

THE GUNNER OFFICER: Yes.

THE SECOND GUNNER: Do they know that while they have been fooling away firing at infantry two batteries on this side have been firing at them for a good quarter of an hour?

THE GUNNER OFFICER: Impossible. They couldn't do it: there's a hill between, and the angle's impracticable.

THE SECOND GUNNER: Well, I shall go and put them out of action.

THE GUNNER OFFICER: You mustn't do it. I am senior here, and I have come over to put this infantry out of action.

THE SECOND GUNNER: What's the date of your commission?

Exeunt quarrelling down the hill to find the senior umpire, taking no further notice of Mr. Parker.

PRIVATE E. BROWN: 'Ow them 'orse officers gallops their 'osses, Thes might be 'aving a shilling's worth on Ampstead 'Eath

PRIVATE P. HOLLES: You put a man on a 'orse, and if 'e swears enough, and swaggers enough, and gallops enough they calls him a smart officer.

A SERGEANT: Hold your row there.

There is a pause of an hour and a half, during which nothing is done anywhere in Mr. Parker's neighbourhood. There is some desultory firing in the far distance, the echo of a few volleys, and an occasional boom from a gun. Then a few Hussars and what looks like a troop of Lancers come trotting over the hill on the flank, with Ground Scouts out down to the brook, at the same time that a dribble of black coats and red coats rush down the hill into the wood. Mr. Parker, to show that he is very much on the alert, orders two section volleys to be fired at them—cavalry and infantry—and sends word by signalling to the Colonel to say that small bodies of the enemy's cavalry and infantry have made a lodgment on the flank. One or two section volleys are fired from the edge of the wood, to which Mr. Parker orders similar replies to be made. The cavalry finds the fords, and, crossing leisurely, form up on the near bank.

Officers of artillery, officers of cavalry, line officers, all with white bands on the right arm, gallop up from every direction and converge on Mr. Parker.

1ST UMPIRE: Are you entrenched, sir?

2ND UMPIRE: Was your fire directed on the cavalry or infantry?

3RD UMPIRE: At what range were you firing?

4TH UMPIRE: I claim that they are shaken infantry?

MR. PARKER: On the contrary, we are quite un-shaken.

1ST UMPIRE: They lose one fourth.

2ND UMPIRE: The charge of the cavalry took them absolutely unprepared.

MR. PARKER (growing warm): What cavalry? Where?

3RD UMPIRE: A charge of two regiments. You must retire, sir, until you reach supporting troops.

MR. PARKER: I will not. I have been ordered to hold this at all costs, and the safety ——

A General Officer, who is the senior umpire, rides up at this moment. At the same time the Southern Fusiliers' main body begins to fire company volleys.

THE GENERAL OFFICER: What is the situation?

All the umpires begin talking to him as quickly as they can.

THE GENERAL OFFICER (*to Mr. Parker*): Your post has been taken in the flank by cavalry, after an overwhelming infantry fire has been poured in upon you. You lose a half company, and must move back at once upon support.

MR. PARKER: But the effect of my infantry fire——

THE GENERAL OFFICER: The effect of your infantry fire. Well, what of that?

MR. PARKER: As laid down in the book. (*He fumbles for the book, opens it at "Effect of Infantry Fire" and reads*):

"The effect of infantry fire is affected by various considerations, such as the range and its correct estimation, the nature of the target, the duration of the fire, the fire discipline, and any surprise or other disturbing element. Having in view the necessity for saving ammunition, it will not generally be possible in peace manœuvres to estimate the intensity of fire."

THE GENERAL OFFICER: And what the devil is the meaning of that rigmarole?

MR. PARKER: I don't quite know, sir. I was depending on the intensity of my fire.

THE GENERAL OFFICER: Intensity of your fiddlesticks. Obey my orders, and withdraw on to your supports. (*To the other umpires*): We will now apportion the losses of the attacking force.

The umpires ride down the hill towards the attackers. Mr. Parker, very indignant, falls in his two companies and begins to retire.

PRIVATE E. BROWN: 'Ope this is the end of the blooming show for to-day.

PRIVATE P. HOLLES: You didn't see them beer waggons moving anywhere, did yer?

THE SERGEANT: *Chop* there you blooming conversationalists.

THE COLONEL (*galloping up*): What is the meaning of this retirement?

Mr. Parker explains as well as his agitation will allow that he has been ordered to fall back upon support.

THE COLONEL: And what were my orders to you?—to hold the position till the last gasp. If you wanted support you should have sent for it. Get back again and show some back-bone. You shall have half a battalion in support in five minutes.

Mr. Parker orders the two companies back at a double.

PRIVATE E. BROWN: We're to take a little running excercize now.

PRIVATE P. HOLLES: Just to give us a happetite, I suppose.

As the two companies regain the knoll, the Senior Umpire, followed at two hundred yards' distance by the enemy's cavalry and infantry, trots up.

THE SENIOR UMPIRE: What the? Why the?

The "Halt" sounds, followed by the "Cease fire."

THE SENIOR UMPIRE: Take this officer's name. (*To Mr. Parker*): You will hear more of this, sir.

At the close of the "pow-pow," with all the Generals and C. O.'s around him, the Umpire-in-Chief gives his views as to the causes of the defeat of the defending army.

THE UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF (*concluding*): The Southern Fusiliers and the regiments next to them would have been absolutely rolled up, and this principally owing to the indecision and want of initiative of the detached post thrown out on the flank, which, owing to the absence of cavalry there, was responsible for observation as well as defence.

THE SENIOR UMPIRE: They were commanded by a young officer who absolutely refused to obey my orders, and whose name is Mr. Parker.

THE UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF: This is a very serious matter. (*To the Colonel of the Southern Fusiliers*): Be good enough to give it your attention at once. The safety of an army has been imperilled by a young officer's ignorance of the duties of his profession.

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The Southern Fusiliers have arrived back to camp when the Colonel, pale with rage, comes cantering up. The officers are called up and dismissed with the exception of Mr. Parker.

THE COLONEL: Sir, you have disgraced yourself and your regiment to-day, and have imperilled the safety of an army. Your behaviour has been animadverted on by the Umpire-in-Chief himself. Go to your tent, and the adjutant will come for your sword. I will hear any explanation in extenuation to-morrow.

Mr. Parker goes off parade with head cast down.

PRIVATE M. COSTIGAN (*in a whisper*): The orator's in trouble.

PRIVATE E. BROWN: That comes of too much gasin'.

PRIVATE P. HOLLES: Wonder if the canteen waggon's up.

A SERGEANT: Silence in the ranks.

THE ADJUTANT. Battalion. Tchun. Right turn. Dismiss.

N. N.-D.

—:o:—

Sports at Shahjehanpur.

—:o:—

With the arrival of the left wing at head-quarters we have been able to obtain a programme and a few particulars of some very successful sports held at Shahjehanpur on the 19th October last as a kind of "Balaclava" celebration. As at head-quarters one company managed to secure the lion's share of the prize money, "H" in this instance accounting for one hundred and eighty-nine rupees, or nearly one half. The best event was probably the Mile Race. In this Elliott led from the start, and was in front until very near the winning post when Comrie broke away and came in an easy first. The men of the "Liver" wing have a great fancy for their man on his performances, and we look forward to see some really good racing if any sports should come off in Bareilly this cold season.

Another interesting item was the tug-of-war won by "H" Company, who were excellently trained and handled. There were several other good events; Tochi was commemorated by the "Best Dressed Highlander" being in "Field Service Marching Order," and there was also a Balaclava Race in which the competitors had to "drink a bottle of soda, eat a bun and light a cigar" and finish with the cigar alight. This was a very funny exhibition, and caused much amusement, but in what way it suggested Balaclava is difficult to imagine.

Unfortunately we have not been able to obtain names of all the winners in all the events, but a rough list showing most of the principal prize winners follows.

A very energetic committee, presided over by Captain McNeill, made all arrangements and officiated in the onerous positions of judges, starters, &c.:—

100 YDS. RACE.

Private Comrie, "H" Company... 1
„ Skeene, "G" 2
„ Houston, "G" 3

THROWING THE HAMMER (9 FT. CIRCLE).

Private McDonald, "G" 1
Corporal Reid, "F" 2
Private Hindmarsh "G" 3

HIGH JUMP.

Private McDonald, "G" (5 ft. 3 in.) 1
„ Wright, "H" 2
„ Comrie, "H" 3

HIGHLAND FLING.

Piper Lynch, "F" 1
Pipe-Major Ferguson, "G" 2

PUTTING LIGHT SHOT.

Corporal Reid, "F" 1
Private Scott, "H" 2
„ Fraser, "F" 3

THROWING CRICKET BALL.

Private Wicks, "G" 1
Lance-Corporal Roberts, "G" 2

TOSSING THE CABER.

Corporal Reid, "F" 1
Private Scott, "H" 2

SACK RACE.

Private Comrie, "H" 1
„ Hindmarsh, "G" 2

BAYONET FIGHTING (COY. TEAMS).

"H" Company Team (Privates Lawrie, Wright and Slatter) 1

HALF MILE RACE.

Private Comrie, "H" 1
„ Elliott, "F" 2
„ Tawse, "H" 3

BEST DRESSED HIGHLANDERS.
(*Field Service Marching Order.*)

Private Carruthers, "H" 1
Lance-Corporal Roberts, "G" 2
Private Laird, "G" 3

TUG-O'-WAR.

"H" Company Team 1
Privates Duncan, (5089) Lawrie, Hawthorne, Lce.-Cpl. Yardley, Wright, Scott, McNally, Morrison, Lce.-Cpl. Martin. Coach Sergeant Clarke.

PLACE KICK.

Private Kitchen, "E" 1
„ Hindmarsh, "G" 2

PIPE PLAYING.
(*Marches, Strathspeys and Reels*).

Piper McLauchlan, "H" 1
„ Lynch, "F" 2

SWORD DANCE.

Piper Lynch, "F" 1
Pipe-Major Ferguson, "G" 2
Corporal Ogg, "E" 3

MILE RACE.

Private Comrie, "H" 1
„ Elliott, "F" 2
„ Allan, "H" 3

BALACLAVA RACE.

Private Wright, "H" 1
„ Allan, "H" 2

CONSOLATION RACE (220 YDS.).

Private Hill, "E" 1

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it wis gled tae see its auld Brigadier.
That the Sergeaints wis prood men on the 14th.
That it wis a gran' photie.
That is gey cauld this year at Bareilly.
That the Jeff took the cake.
That the league matches hae been guid.
That play's a wee bit rough o' times.
That " E " Company's colours are ower rorie.
That they're a gran' combination.
That the Regimental team lukes like bein' business. like at last.
That they only want trainin.'
That the raw material is better noo than ever.
That they are in guid haunds at ony rate.
That the Lucknow Cup wis won in '93.
That wi' hard work there is nothing tae prevent it comin' this road again.
That let 'em all come.

—: o :—

New Barrack Room Ballad.

—o—

(With Apologies to Rudyard Kipling.)

(*From a correspondent in Egypt, one of those who went to the Mahdi's tomb*).

As I was spitting an idle spit, and wondering what's worth while,
I seed a man in an Army suit, got up in the " Kipling " style,
'E was going along with a Learoyd chiv and a regular Ortheris leer,
'E'd an old clay pipe in his ugly mug, and his breath it stank o' beer,
An' my pal, Private Smart, of the 'Spick and Spans,' sez' " Well,"
If 'e's a type of a soldier boy, I wish I may go to h——!
'E's a sort of a giddy harumfrodite, the sort as are made to sell.
'E's the cove that is fond of a 'arness cut, and 'ooting in barrack yards,
'E's arf a liar, and arf a thief, and fond of assaulting the Guards;
'E ain't no special chrysanthemum, wot washes behind his ears,
'E takes his fun where he finds it, and civilians he jolly well skeers;
'E ain't no limping procrastitute, he can swear till all is blue,
'E tells yer straight, as 'e loosens is belt, 'e's a d—— in tough bullet to chew,
An' they'd 'ave 'em believe in the world outside, he's the pattern of me and you.
I wish I had Kipling 'ere just now, I'd give him a bit of my mind,
For we ain't all Cockneys and ne'er-do-wells, and some of us is refined;
An' tho' I am talking in Kiplingese, it isn't the Army way,
For we've had some eddication, and we don't all guzzle our pay;
Us boys that fight for the widow may not suit your drawing room,
But they weren't all bullies and rowdies that went to the Mahdi's tomb,
An' I tell you wot, it's a heap o' rot, this blarsted Kipling boom.

" Vexatus "

In the Globe and Laurel.

—: o :—

Domestic Occurrences.

—o—

BIRTHS.

Ewan.—At Ranikhet, on the 22nd October, the wife of Sergeant J. Ewan, " C " Company, of a daughter—Evelyn Elizabeth.

Lundie.—At Bareilly, on 3rd December, the wife of Sergeant-Major R. Lundie, of a son—Robert Kasson.

DEATHS.

McLure.—At Lucknow, on the 29th November 1898, No. 3960, Private J. McLure, " A " Company.

Lundie.—At the Station Hospital, Bareilly, on the 14th December 1898, Jane the beloved wife of Sergeant-Major R. Lundie, 93rd Highlanders.

—: o :—

Football.

—o—

The late reverse has perhaps been somewhat of a blessing in disguise, as a much more systematic way is being adopted in choosing a team to represent the battalion for the Lucknow Cup. This is a step in the right direction, but unless consistent and hard training—a thing which has somehow always seemed distasteful to the majority of our teams—is indulged in, no amount of success can be expected. Training is really only a matter of careful selection, care, attention and discipline, and with all those things (there is, as we have said before, plenty of raw material), there is no reason why our team should not be the best we have ever possessed

The draws for the Lucknow Tournament are out, and of course we meet the East Lancashire Regiment, this time on our own ground. The matches of this round are to be played before the 25th instant, and it is hoped this match may be a more interesting one, as far as we are concerned, than the last exhibition. The follow-

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ing have been selected by the committee to commence training and on their performance and work will the final decision be made.

Forwards.—Privates McKenzie, "D"; McDonald, Leitch, Cairns, "C"; Wilson, Houston, "G"; Rae, "F."

Half-Backs.—2nd-Lieutenant Herbert, "B"; Corporal Watson, "F"; Lance-Corporals Hudghton "B," Benson, "G" Wilson, "A."

Backs.—Privates Park, "A," Scott, Kerr, "B," Kerr, "C."

Goal-keeper.—Private Geddes, "C."

They have been entrusted to the tender mercies of Private Logan for training, with Private Mossman to make the pace, and in such hands should not fail to give a good account of themselves.

* * * *

The arrival of the Wing from Shahjehanpur has done a lot for football, the league match since their arrival having seemed to be much more keenly contested. This is not to be wondered at, however, as the favourites for the "clock" are from Shahjehanpur, and the matches since the middle of last month have really been more worth watching. One or two friendly matches have taken place in addition to the league fixtures, the "Right" and "Left" half battalions having had two contests, both of which were evenly contested, and produced some good play.

LEAGUE MATCHES.

—o—

"A" v. "B".—Played on 3rd December, resulting in a win for the former company. Scores "A" 2—"B" 1.

"C" v. "D".—Played on 5th ultimo, "C" being victorious by 3 points to 1.

"A" v. "C".—Played on 9th ultimo, the scores being "C" 3—"A" 1 goal. The game had to be re-played, however, owing to a protest on the score of rough play, the result being "C" 6 goals—"A" 1.

"B" v. "D". Played on the 12th ultimo. A win for the former company by 2 goals to 1. "D," however, played only ten men during more than half the game.

"A" v. "D".—Played on the 14th, "D" winning by 2 goals to *nil*.

"B" v. "C".—Played on the 15th ultimo, and after a good and fast game resulted in a draw, no goals being registered to either team.

"F" v. "G".—Played on the 23rd. Another good game between two of the best teams, the result also being a draw. Score "F" 1—"G" 1.

"E" v. "H".—Played on 24th ultimo, when "E" had an easy win by 5 goals to 1.

"A" v. "E".—Played on the 26th. A good game and a tie. Scores "A" 1—"E" 1.

"B" v. "F".—Played on the 27th, "F" winning by one goal. Scores "B" 0—"F" 1.

"C" v. "G".—Played on the 30th, when after a good game "G" secured an advantage by one point. Scores "C" 0—"G" 1.

Cricket Tournament.

—o—

(First Round.)

"G" Company v. "E" Company—Played at Shahjehanpur on 9th November, resulting in a victory for the former team by 11 runs. Scores—

"*G*" *Company.*—Private Hindmarsh 0, Skene 61, Young 10, Wicks 6, Doyle 2, Lance-Corporal Inglis 4, Benson 3, Private McKinlay 0, Brown 6, Brookes, not out, 4, Drummer Fogg 0, Extras 4. Total 100.

"*E*" *Company.*—Private Diplock 0, Hill 0, Montgomerie 0, Corporal Fearn 23, Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean 12, Lieutenant Cox 34, Private McDonald 0, Duncan 6, Hogg 4, Cairns 0, Hughes, not out, 4, Extras 2. Total 89.

"F" Company v. "H" Company.—Played at Shahjehanpur on the 3rd December, when "H" secured the ascendancy owing mainly to the efforts of Lance-Corporal Daniel. Scores—

"*F*" *Company.*—Lance-Corporal Buchanan 3, Private Collins 0, Renwick 7, Corporal Charters 1, Private Millar 10, Maywood 7, Goff 1, Lawrence, not out, 14, McNie 1, Hamilton 1, Fraser 5, Extras 18. Total 68.

"*H*" *Company.*—Armourer-Sergeant Holden 19, Private McTaggat 4, Lance-Corporal Keeble 7, Private Comrie 0, Lance-Corporal Daniel, not out, 46, Private Watt 1, Scott 0, Clarke 7, Kellagher 4, McDougal 7, Cameron did not bat, Extras 11. Total 97.

"B" Company v. "D" Company.—In this the latter Company scratched.

"A" Company v. "C" Company.—Played at Bareilly, "C" being victorious by an innings and 50 runs.

Second Round.

"B" Company v. "C" Company.—Played at Bareilly on the ult., "C" Company being victorious by nine wickets. Scores—"*B*" *Company.*—Lieutenant Cooker 5; Sergeant Stonor 17, 12; Private Stevenson 13, 12; Russell 1, 1; Hunter 0, 6; Fullbrook 0, 4; Henry 5, 0; Mossman 2, 4; Kerr 2, 11; Logan 2, 0; Macgregor 7, 7; Extras 3, 6; Total 57, 63.

"*C*" *Company.*—Private Baker 6, not out. 3; Corporal Poole 14, not out, 8; Corporal Mahoney 2, 5; Private Cairns 16; Geddes 8; Lance-Corporal Johnston 15; Private French 17; Gibson 0; Harper 5; Blackwood 1; Extras 11, 0; Totals 102, 21 for 1 wicket.

"G" Company v. "H" Company.—Played at Shahjehanpur, when "H," who were poorly represented, could do nothing with the bowling of Hindmarsh and Young and were beaten by 88 runs Scores:—

"*G*" *Company.*—Private Wicks 29, Pullar 20, Skene 9, Sergeant R. Miller 7, Corporal Hall 0, Private Hindmarsh 9, Young 8, Doyle 5, McKay 8, Lance-Corporal Benson, not out, 5, Private Forbes 0, Extras, 8. Total 107.

"*H*" *Company.*—Lance-Sergeant Olden 0, Private Carruthers 15, Arm.-Sergt. Holden 2, Private Halford 0, Lance-Corpl. Keeble 0, Private Scott 0, Kellagher 0, Persston 0, Comrie 0, Cameron 0, Harvey not out, 2. Total 19

Final.

"G" Company v. "C" Company.—Played at Bareilly on the 29th December and resulted in a hollow victory for the "Liver" representatives by 127 runs, "C" Company aiding their own downfall by running each other out. Scores—

"*G*" *Company.*—Private Mackay 2, Pullar 7, Skeno 22, Hindmarsh, not out, 98, Young 7, Wicks 5, Millar 0 Lance-Corporal Inglis 11, Benson 10, Private Houston 0, Doyle 2, Extras 1. Total 164.

"*C*" *Company.*—Corporal Poole 0, Private Harper 8, Cairns 9, Lance-Corporal Johnson 3, Sergeant

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Watters 4, Corporal Mahoney 1, Private French 11, Gibson 0, Geddes 0, Blackwood 1, Dott 0, Extras 1. Total 37.

FRIENDLY MATCH.

"E" COMPANY *v.* "G" COMPANY.—These companies again tested their strength in a friendly encounter on the 6th December, when the tables were turned, "E" this time being victorious by the narrow margin of four runs. Scores:—

"*E*" *Company.*—Corporal Fearn 4, Private Macdonald 4, Lieutenant Cox 0, Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean 17, Private Hill 0, Corporal Ogg, 2, Private Duncan 4, Montgomerie 0, Diplock, not out, 8, Lance-Corporal Kelley 1, Hughes 6, Extras 6. Total 54.

"*G*" *Company.*—Private McKinley 0, Mackay 0, Skene 9, Captain Aitken 0, Private Hindmarsh 14, Young 1, Wicks 0, Doyle, not out, 20, Lance-Corporal Benson 2, Private Brown 4, Lance-Corporal Inglis 0. Total 50.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Corporals.—No. 4397, Lce.-Corpl. Cody, "C" Company, dated 28th November 1898. No. 4805, Lance-Corporal Norrie, "G" Company, dated 1st December 1898. No. 5219, Lance-Corporal M. Sutherland, "F" Company, dated 24th December.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Sergeant.—No. 35, Corporal F. Marks, "H" Company.

To be Paid Lance-Corporals—No. 4773, Lance-Corporal Wilson, "A" Company, dated 10th December. No. 3990, Lance-Corporal G. Gardner, "D" Company, dated 23rd December. No. 3849, Lance-Corporal J. Duff, "G" Company, dated 28th November 1898. No. 5587, Lance-Corporal W. Johnstone, "D" Company, dated 24th December. No. 5534, Lance-Corporal W. Menzies, "H" Company, and No. 5841, Lance-Corporal J. Brown, "F" Company, dated 28th December.

To be Drummer.—No. 5171, Private J. Coutts, "A" Company.

To be Acting Piper.—No. 5638, Private J. Clarke, "D" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2*d. per diem*:—

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4595, Pte. J. Dolan. | No. 4620, Pte. J. Fleming.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 4594, Pte. J. Coleman. | No. 4603 Pte. J. Brown.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 4593, Pte. J. Livingstone | No. 3060, Pte. D. McLauchlan.

Granted 1*d. per diem*:—

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4218, Pte. W. Scott. | No. 5626, Pte. A. McKenzie.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 3968, Pte. A. Brown.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 3769, Pte. J. Salmons.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 5974, Pte. W. McMenaman.

Restored 1*d. per diem*:—

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4343, Piper J. McLean.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4568, Pte. A. McGregor.

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete 12 *years with the colours*:—

No. 3611, Corporal A. Maskell, "B" Company.
„ 4484, „ P. G. Matthew, "E" Company.
„ 5171, Drummer J. Coutts, "A" Company.
„ 4610, Private J. McDonald, "B" Company.

To complete 21 *years' service*:—

No. 2904, Sergeant J. Stewart, "B" Company.
„ 2930, „ J. Dawson, "H" Company.
„ 2956, „ G. Gunn, "G" Company.

TRANSFERS TO UNATTACHED LIST.

No. 4945, Lance-Corporal R. Wright, "C" Company, for service in the Commissariat Department, with effect from 8th November 1895.

INTER COMPANY TRANSFERS.

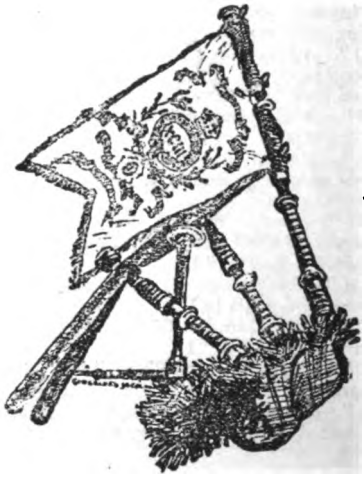
"C" to "G" Company—No. 3276, Corpl. J. Ward.
"G" to "C" „ „ 4805, „ W. Norrie.
"A" to "C" „ „ 6663, Drmr. C. Dunne.
"A" to "E" „ „ 6664, „ E. Dunne.
"A" to "G" „ „ 5171, „ J. Coutts.
"A" to "H" „ „ 4276, „ W. Ballantyne.

Discharge.

By Purchase.—No. 5826, Lance-Corporal Nigel Oliphant, "A" Company, on payment of £ 18-0-0.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

			£	s.	d.
No. 3581,	Sergeant	F. Beavis, "A" Company ...	0	8	0
„ 5256,	Lance-Corporal	J. Atkinson, "E" Company	0	6	0
No. 4074,	Private	C. Smith "C" Company ...	0	4	6
„ 4195,	„	W. Barnard "G" „ ...	0	4	0
„ 4417,	„	J. Brown "C" „ ...	0	3	9
„ 5738,	„	J. Lennon "E" „ ...	0	4	0
„ 4692,	„	J. Nolan "F" „ ...	0	3	6



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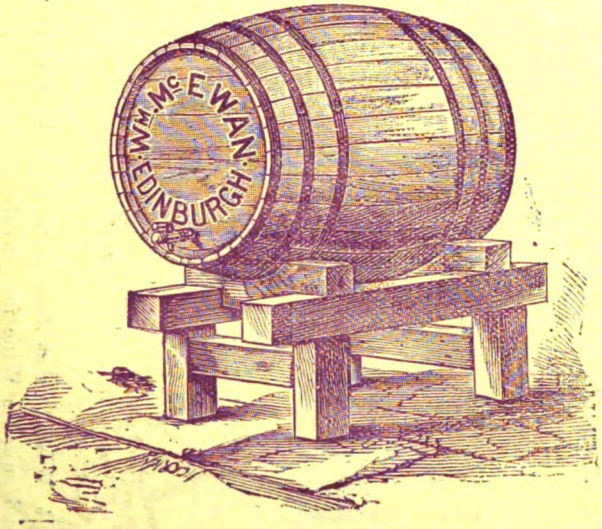

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Feb. 1899

V.4

The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 9—Vol. IV. BAREILLY,—FEBRUARY 1899. [Price, 2 Annas

SKIRLS

THE first of January falling on a Sunday passed, except for a few isolated cases of "Hogmania," quite quietly, the proclamation parade being held, and New Year celebrated on the next day, Monday 2nd. The parade was on the usual rendezvous, the race-course, and was formed up at twelve noon. The whole of the Bareilly garrison, consisting of the 10th F. B. R. A., 8th Bengal Cavalry, East Lancashire Regiment, detachment Border Regiment, 12th Bengal Infantry, and ourselves, formed a line which, after firing the usual *feu de joie* and giving cheers for Her Majesty, columned and marched to quarters: the battalion and its many friends to celebrate their "only once a year." With few exceptions the dining halls of the various bungalows were gaily decorated for the occasion, the Band perhaps excelling in this particular. There were the usual stereotyped seasonable good wishes displayed in coloured paper letters on the walls, addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Goff, the Company Officers, and in some cases to all comers. Interspersed with the greetings and wishes for prosperity and happiness for 1899 were oleographs and prints, framed and set off for the occasion by ribbons and ever-greens, escutcheons and designs, and trophies of the chase. Some of the legends displayed were more or less original: "Long may your lum reek" was "E" Company's *chef d'œuvre*, while one of the most up-to-date slogans, "Let 'em all come," boldly displayed, certified to the breadth of "F" Company's hospitality. The invitation was still further pressed, and given a touch of local colour by the repetition in large characters of the mystic words "On it"! "On it"! a direction by the way that was not at all necessary.

The drummers who dined alone had not forgotten departing comrades, "T. E. Drummers"

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being wished "Bon Voyage" in letters of gold. In one bungalow the battle honours were imposingly displayed, "Tochi" nestling coyly amongst them. A few companies discarding tinsel and tin-tacks devoted all their energies to the sterner and more substantial realities. The bungalows being so widely separated here at Bareilly, the Commanding Officer was unfortunately only able to visit the Band at their dinner, and company officers had to convey his good wishes and regrets to their men when visiting the dinners. In the afternoon the men were left to their own devices, and the New Year is now to most but a memory. The Band celebrated their annual dance on the evening of the 2nd, and it was a great success. Nearly all the officers and ladies of the regiment were present, and many others, and dancing was kept up with great spirit until midnight.

* * * * *

Several additions have been lately made to the Sergeants' Mess collections of photographs. Just before leaving Chaubattia General Egerton very kindly presented a portrait of himself to the Sergeants, and now they are in receipt of a very handsomely mounted and framed full length photograph of the Colonel of the Regiment, sent by General Sir John Ewart himself. Miss Campbell of Kilberry has also contributed an addition, an instantaneous photograph of her own, showing Pipe-Major Meldrum, who left the 93rd in Cork in 1887, winning the Gold Medal for marches, strathspeys and reels at the Oban Highland gathering of 1898. The Sergeants' library has also been enriched, by the receipt from the author, of "A Highland Subaltern in the Mutiny" by Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon Alexander, who was a junior officer of the 93rd during the Mutiny, and his book cannot but impress one with the fact that this much behistoried regiment (the 93rd has probably been the subject of more historical records than any corps in the service) can still, in its stirring annals, give the historian ample scope.

* * * * *

There have been two brigade parades weekly since early in the month, and generally on these occasions the battalion has been formed as two battalions, each of three strong companies; practice of the usual brigade formations has then taken place, the parade usually being concluded by the dinner hour.

On Tuesday, 11th ultimo, the parade was in Review order, for the purpose of proclaiming the New Viceroy, Lord Curzon.

* * * * *

The Presidency Athletic Meeting is to be held this year on Saturday, 18th February 1899, and copies of the programme have been received. There are five events constituting the Army Championship for Sir George White's Challenge Shield, which shield is awarded to corps whose representatives secure the greatest number of marks in these five races. In addition to the Challenge Shield, which is a very handsome trophy at present held by the Black Watch, there are substantial money prizes, and silver championship medals for the winner, and bronze medals and money prizes for second and third in each race. So far the regiment has never been represented at Calcutta in this annual athletic meeting, distance, added, no doubt, to national cautiousness, preventing our regimental representatives from journeying so far in search of perspective fame.

* * * * *

Their proverbial ill-luck followed the football team to Cawnpore, where in the second round for the Murray Cup they met the King's Own Scottish Borderers on the last day of the month, Tuesday, 31st ultimo. The match was played in a high wind interspersed with dust-storms, and the game, and the chance of winning the cup, was lost by one goal to *nil*.

* * * * *

The following are extracts from the *London Gazette*, dated 20th December 1898:—

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Major J. S. Napier retires on retired pay.

Captain F. M. Aitken to be Major, *vice* J. S. Napier, retired.

Lieutenant F. G. Newall is seconded for service with Egyptian Army.

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Orders have been issued regarding the movements of the battalion this spring, and the right wing will go to Shahjehanpur on the 20th instant, while head-quarters and the left half battalion move to Chaubattia on the 3rd March.

The Chaubattia party will march to the hills about five hundred strong, as the two drafts and the usual head-quarter accessories will probably bring the four companies up to this strength, this will leave the plain detachment to number some four hundred and fifty—a strength that will no doubt have decreased considerably before the conclusion of the hot weather. The majority of the right wing, however, are looking forward to spending a very pleasant summer at Shahjehanpur "under the punkah," for compared with previously experienced Punjab hot seasons the North-West Provinces can have few terrors.

* * * * *

Lance-Corporal A. Mitchell, "C" Company, was on the 17th ultimo presented with the medal for long service and good conduct. The presentation was made on parade by the commanding officer, who congratulated the recipient upon obtaining the distinction. Corporal Mitchell also received a gratuity of £5 with the medal.

* * * * *

The Inter-Company tug-of-war competition, with Captain McKerrell's Shield as the prize, has been decided, and good training has again told over weight and apparent strength. "A" Company are the winners of the trophy for 1899, and they thoroughly deserve their victory. The first pulls were decided on the 26th ultimo, the draws having taken place a week or so previously. The draws were, very curiously, as follows: "A" *v.* "B," "C" *v.* "D," "E" *v.* "F," "G" *v.* "H." Of the first two "B" succumbed to their better-trained rivals after a pull of two and-a-half minutes. "D" took four minutes to pull their opponents, whilst "F" were only half that time with "E," and "G" went to "H" in one and three-quarters minutes. In the semi-finals on the 27th "A" *v.* "H" and "F" *v.* "D" were the draws. In the first, the holder of the shield and champions of the Left Wing were expected to give a good account of themselves, but had unfortunately lost the services of two of their Shahjehanpur team and had not trained to the same pitch of excellence as their rivals. The pull was, however, a good one, and lasted just four-and-a-half minutes. In the second pull "D" never offered any real resistance to "F," who won after two minutes on the rope. The final arranged for 12 noon on Saturday, 28th ultimo, gave promise of an interesting pull, "F" were a heavy team who had won their ties without any apparent exertion, and "A" were known to be well trained and couched. The actual pull was somewhat disappointing however: "F" never settled to the rope and their weight was apparently lost, for it was only 2 minutes 15 seconds from taking the strains before "A" had them all over the line. There was a considerable amount of enthusiasm, as was only natural, amongst the winning company at the conclusion of the pull, and the team marched back to the company bungalow headed by a piper and accompanied by enthusiastic comrades. Then the hour, and the brevity of all things, more especially the period allowed for mid-day refreshment, seemed to occur to every one, and there was a rapid and general adjournment.

* * * * *

In anticipation of the forthcoming District Assault-at-arms a regimental tug-of-war team is being selected and trained. It is not a bit too early to commence, as training has always proved itself a most important factor in these trials of endurance and strength, and with eight companies now to select from there should be no difficulty in picking a likely team and keeping up our prestige of the past.

* * * * *

We committed an error in last month's number in saying that "F" Company had held possession of the Physical Drill Shield since 1895. In 1896 "E" won, whilst the present holders are "D," who took the trophy at our last Regimental Sports at Nowshera held in the spring of 1897.

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We take the following interesting cutting from a current number of the *Rothesay Express*:—

PRESENTATION OF A WAR MEDAL.

Yesterday afternoon Quartermaster and Captain Macrae, Paisley, recruiting officer of the 91st regimental district, visited Rothesay for the purpose of presenting the North-West Frontier Medal to Color-Sergeant Mackie, who is presently stationed in Rothesay on recruiting duty for the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Color-Sergeant Mackie served with the 2nd Battalion A. and S. Highlanders, the old 93rd, in the recent campaign on the North-West Frontier (Tochi Valley). He has been in Rothesay for some weeks, and has succeeded in enlisting several serviceable recruits for his old regiment. The presentation of the medal took place in the orderly room of the Argyll and Bute V. A. at the Drill Hall, in presence of Captain R. D. Macmillan, Lieutenant Mackinlay, the drill instructors of the Artillery and Rifle companies, and a few other friends. After formally pinning the medal to Color-Sergeant Mackie's breast, Captain Macrae said it was for him a very pleasant duty indeed to come to Rothesay to present this medal, though he could have wished to have done it in presence of his old comrades. The presentation recalled to him (Captain Macrae) many pleasant recollections of the old regiment in which Color-Sergeant Mackie and his gallant father before him had served. He expressed the hope that the Color-Sergeant would be long spared to wear the medal which he had so well earned, and concluded by thanking the officers of the Argyll and Bute Artillery for the use of their room. Captain Macmillan briefly replied and made a few congratulatory remarks, after which Color-Sergeant Allan apologised for the absence of Captain Buchanan and Lieutenant Carse of I "Company," who regretted that business engagements prevented their attendance. The pleasing ceremony then terminated.

* * * * *

A cricket team journeyed to Sitapur during the past month to play a two-days match against the 42nd. The journey, proved too much for the majority of our players, who were worsted by six runs with an innings to spare. After the cricket match the two elevens met at football, when, after much brilliant play on both sides, ours turned the tables and secured a victory by one goal to *nil*.

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Color-Sergeant T. Chaplin, "D" Company has been granted a certificate from the School of Musketry, Pachmari, qualifying him for the appointment of Sergeant Instructor of Musketry to a Battalion.

* * * * *

We have to congratulate Lieutenant Malcolm on his appointment as Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, recently notified in Reuter's telegrams. This is the first occasion on which this decoration has been conferred on an officer of the regiment, but it is held by an ex-officer in the person of Major Wright, 11th Bengal Lancers.

When last heard of Lieutenant Malcolm was suffering a good deal from fever, but we hope soon to hear that he is quite restored to health. The next news of him will probably come through Egypt.

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Another subaltern is desirous of tempting fortune in Africa, Lieutenant Johnston-Stewart, having telegraphed for permission to apply for employment under the Foreign Office or in the Egyptian Army.

* * * * *

A draft, consisting of one sergeant, two corporals and eighty-three men, under Lieutenant Elphinston, landed at Bombay on the 4th January and arrived at Bareilly on the 14th. Under the rules for the prevention of spreading the plague they were segregated in the Rest Camp for several days. We are glad to see several of them playing in their company football teams, and hope the second draft now on its way out will also bring us some good players.

* * * * *

Major Napier has been permitted to retire on pension, with effect from 21st December 1898, and leaves the regiment after serving in it for twenty-five years, all of which has been at regimental duty except five years during which he was Adjutant of the 4th Battalion. It is expected that he will shortly visit the regiment to say good-bye before returning to England.

* * * * *

Major Aitken has succeeded to the vacant Majority, which may perhaps console him a bit for the unfortunate accident which befell him on the 3rd January. Playing in goal in a match, Officers of the Station v. Officers, East Lancashire Regiment, he had the misfortune to break his leg badly just after half time. There were three distinct breaks below the knee, but luckily only simple fractures. He is now doing as well as possible, but it will be some time before he is able to walk about.

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The annual school treat was held on the 10th January, when all appeared to enjoy themselves. There was much competition for riding on the elephants provided, and great excitement over the bran pies. All the youngsters got presents, including the subalterns.

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In last month's paper our account of the wing sports at Shahjehanpur was, as we then admitted, most incomplete, owing to the precarious manner in which news from the wing there was obtained. The account of the gathering would, however, have been almost complete had one of our casual correspondents not omitted to inform us at the time that Mrs. C. A. H. Maclean had, with her usual kindness, presided at the most important part of the concluding ceremony, *viz.*, the presentation of the prizes.

* * * * *

The last mail of the month brought the sad news of the death, at Snowdon House, Stirling, of Colonel Nightingale in the sixty-seventh year of his age, the following appearing in battalion orders:—

"It is with great regret that the Officer Commanding announces to the battalion that news has been received of the death of Colonel Nightingale, who commanded the battalion from July 1884 to July 1887."

Colonel A. C. Nightingale served with the 93rd Highlanders in the Crimea from the 14th July 1855, including the seige and fall of Sebastopol (medal with clasp and Turkish medal). Served also in suppression of the Indian Mutiny from the 25th September 1857 to 20th February 1858, including the relief of Lucknow by Lord Clyde, defeat of the Gwalior Contingent at Cawnpore on 6th December, and other engagements (medal with clasp). Served in the Eusafzai campaign of 1863-64, and at the Umbeyla Pass under Sir John Garvock (medal with clasp).

There are probably few now who remember Colonel Nightingale as commanding the battalion, but recollections of serving under his command at the depôt at Stirling in 1890 are to us most pleasant memories, and the news of his decease was as unexpected as it is regrettable.

A New Regimental History.

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LIEUTENANT-Colonel Gordon Alexander late Captain, 93rd, has recently presented a copy of his book "Recollections of a Highland Subaltern" to the Officers and Sergeants' Messes of the Battalion. As compiled from the author's notes written down sometimes in a regular diary, sometimes on scraps of paper, and sometimes even on drumheads captured from the mutineers, but always within a few days at most of the events of which it is a record, it has a very great advantage of accuracy in detail over other histories of the same period written long after the mutiny was subdued. To us any narrative of the events in which the 93rd took so conspicuous a part must always be of interest, and the book, while it gives a general report of all the operations in which the regiment was engaged, deals mainly with the actual part taken by the 93rd.

We have recently come into a part of the country where the regiment was frequently engaged, and in this very station of Bareilly a very stiff fight took place on 5th May 1858, six days after the capture of Shahjehanpur. A very clear plan of the battle of Bareilly is given, which is well worth the careful study of all. Bareilly seems such a quiet, peaceful place in these times that it is difficult to picture it to oneself as a battle field, and probably none of those marching up from Shahjehanpur last November considered that they were treading in the steps of their predecessors in the 93rd who, in the year 1858, marched under Sir Colin Campbell against the mutineers in Rohilkhand.

Two instances are given, of detachments of the regiment being routed by hornets, and an incident somewhat similar happened to some of us curiously enough in the Tochi Valley two years' ago, but in the latter the Highland dress, we regret to say, was undoubtedly found wanting, as the enemy attacked from the grass below instead of the trees above.

The accounts of the Relief, and later the capture of Lucknow are dealt with in detail, which the importance of the subject demands from the conspicuous part played in them by the regiment.

All of those who took a leading part in those glorious days have gone, but many who greatly distinguished themselves remain. Captain Wolseley, who captured the Mess House at Lucknow on 17th November 1857, is now Field Marshal, Commander-in-Chief of the Army; Lieutenant Salmon, who well earned his Victoria

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Cross by climbing up into a tree outside the Shah Najif at Lucknow, and from that height kept up a a galling fire on the enemy within the walls from rifles loaded below and handed up to him,—is now Admiral of the Fleet and may still be remembered as the little Admiral who commanded the China Squadron, during most of the time the 1st Battalion was in Hong-Kong; while Lieutenant Roberts, V. C., is now Commander-in-Chief in Ireland, and the most popular soldier alive.

Of regimental officers but few remain. Sir Colin Campbell, always considered a 93rd man, though actually only connected with the regiment as Colonel from January 1858 to June 1860, has long been dead.

The death of Adrian Hope, killed in the hour of victory while commanding a brigade of which his regiment formed a part, is recorded in Colonel Gordon Alexander's book.

"Wullie" Macbean, who rose from the ranks to command of a Regiment and obtained the Victoria Cross for killing eleven men with his own hand at the asssult on the Begum Bagh, died a Major-General in the Army, only too soon after his promotion.

Of the survivors are our present Colonel, Sir John Ewart, still hale and hearty in spite of the loss of his left arm in 1857, and has just presented a handsomely framed photograph of himself to the Sergeants' Mess. Lieutenant-General Burroughs, C. B., Colonel of the Warwickshire Regiment, Colonel Knollys and Cluny, who succeeded him in command and is still chief of his clan, and has recently married.

Others also remain in the persons of Colonel Forbes-Robertson, the last of the Mutiny officers to do duty with a battalion of the regiment, Colonel Gordon Alexander, Captain Burgoyne, our historian, and Major Fullarton, while there is always a good muster of old Mutiny veterans who assemble at the annual Balaclava Sutherland Highlanders' Association dinners.

The book, which is very well got up, is published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., and it should be in the possession of all interested in the 93rd. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Princess Louise have accepted copies, and at the suggestion of the latter a copy has been offered for the acceptance of Her Majesty the Queen.

———:o:———

The following note of the author's services taken from Captain Burgoyne's book may be of interest:—

Ensign, 16th January 1855; Lieutenant, 1st May 1855. Served in the Crimea from the 14th, July 1855 and was at the siege and fall of Sebastopol; also in the Indian Mutiny including the Relief of Lucknow by Lord Clyde, with assaults on the Secundrabagh and Shah Najif; operations at Cawnpore and battle of the 6th December 1857; pursuit to Sarai Ghat; passage of the Kala Nuddie and occupation of Futtehgarh; siege and capture of Lucknow including storming of the Begum's Palace; Rohilkhand Campaign to the capture of Bareilly; campaign in Oude including actions of Pusgaon, Russulpore, and capture of Fort Mittowlie. Captain, 18th February 1862, and as such served in the Eusufzai Campaign under Sir John Garvock; Brevet-Major, 13th May 1875 and retired with rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in 1879. Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander has the Crimean medal with clasp for Sebastopol, Turkish medal, Indian medal with two clasps, and the Frontier medal with clasp for Umbeyla.

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Sutherland Athletic Club.

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THERE were some interesting events decided in the Regimental Gymnasium on the morning of Thursday, 19th ultimo, when under the auspices of the Sutherland Athletic Club, boxing, bayonet fighting, gymnastics, club-swing and Highland dancing competitions took place. The prizes being fairly substantial and numerous, competition was keen, and there were a large number of entries for each event. Lieut.-Colonel Goff was present during the progress of most of the events, and appeared to watch the displays in the "manly art" with much interest. Captain Robinson and Lieutenants Campbell and Kennedy officiated as judges.

The following were winners:—

BOXING—LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Private Lightbody,	"F" Company	... ...	1
" Collins,	"D" "	... ...	2
" Hamilton,	"F" "	... ...	3

CATCH WEIGHTS.

Private Orr,	"D" Company	... ...	1
" Goff,	"F" "	... ...	2

HIGHLAND DANCING.

Piper Fleming,	"B" Company	... ...	1
Private Anderson,	"E" "	... ...	2

BAYONET V. BAYONET.

Private Collins,	"D" Company	... ...	1
" McGregor,	"D" "	... ...	2
" Dyer,	"F" "	... ...	3

GYMNASTICS.

Private Montgomerie,	"E" Company	... ...	1
" McDonald (4812),	"E" "	... ...	2
" McGee,	"F" "	... ...	3

CLUB-SWINGING.

Private Blackley,	"F" Company	... ...	1
" Given,	"E" "	... ...	2
" Collins,	"D" "	... ...	3

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Christmas Cheer.

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One of the barrack rooms of "H" Company, into which the whole of the men of the company have managed to squeeze for their Christmas dinner, with the exception of the Army Temperance men who are dining in company, with much gorgeousness of decoration and with ginger beer as liquid refreshment, elsewhere. On the white-washed walls of the barrack room are great stretches of imitation paper, edged with cut-out frills of pink and white, and with rough, golden lettering stuck on, spelling such sentences as "God bless the Captain," "Good health to Lieutenant Stuart," "A Merry Christmas," while two bull's-eye flags crossed over a miniature target, with the company's figure of merit written large on it, is a proof that this year "H" Company is the best shooting company. The crest of the regiment, roughly painted on paper, appears at intervals on the walls, and festoons of coloured paper ingeniously representing broad-linked chains run from the gas-pipes to the corners of the room, the gas-pipes themselves being gay with coloured paper. A great fire burns in the fireplace, the windows opened a crack at the bottom, are covered with steam.

A long table, made up of many barrack tables, runs the whole length of the room, a second table crossing it at the upper end and forming a T. On the T cross of the table is a white table-cloth, lent by the colour-sergeant. In the centre of this table-cloth is the silver cup won by the company at football, and a bottle of sherry and a jug of beer. The men, sitting very close together, are all in their tunics, the top button only being buttoned. All the way down the table are smoking dishes of fowls, ducks, geese, rounds of beef, legs of mutton, potatoes, and other vegetables. A thick glass filled with beer is by every man's plate. There are jugs on the table and a small beer barrel is propped up in one corner of the room. The colour-sergeants and the sergeants are standing at the top of the table; the corporals and lance-corporals are sitting down with the men. There is a look of expectancy on all the faces. The men are mostly sitting to attention, their hands below the table. One or two of them have evidently paid a preliminary visit to the canteen.

PRIVATE HARDEN *(who has been hammering the table with his knife and singing some-thing unintelligible, suddenly begins to shout)*: Ah—ow, who give me three days for being dirty on parade? Who said I was a disgrace to the company?

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT: Here get him over into No. 3 room till the captain's been round. He's coming across the square now.

The men next to Harden catch hold of him, and he is led protesting feebly that he loves the old captain all the same, and would lay down his life for him, across the landing and into the room opposite, where another Tommy Atkins in the pathetic state of drunkenness is under the impression that he has been put in the guard room, and is weeping bitterly and talking about his mother. The men put Harden down on a bench, and promise to come back for him, then double across the landing and get into their places as the sound of footsteps coming up the stairs is heard. The Captain and Lieutenant Stuart, the subaltern of the company, appear presently at the door.

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT: T'chun!

Every man sits rigidly to attention. The Captain and Subaltern, who are in their blue patrols, but without swords, enter and come to the head of the table.

THE CAPTAIN *(with rather forced joviality)*: Well Colour-Sergeant, here we are at Christmas again.

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT: Yes, sir.

THE CAPTAIN: All the men present?

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT: Yes, sir.

THE CAPTAIN: And all pleasant and jovial, and quite sober, I am glad to see.

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT: Yes, sir.

THE CAPTAIN: It used to be a bit different in the old times when you and I first joined the service, eh, Colour-Sergeant?

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT: Yes, sir.

The sound of weeping comes from the next room; but the captain, who has been round dinners at Christmas before, takes no notice of it.

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT: Will you take port, or sherry or beer, sir?

THE CAPTAIN: Beer, colour-sergeant, please. The good old British beer is good enough for me.

There is a suppressed guffaw of satisfaction from the men sitting near. The football cup is filled with beer and handed to the Captain.

THE COLOUR SERGEANT *(to Mr. Stuart)*: And you sir?

MR. STUART: The same.

THE CAPTAIN: Well, my men, I wish you all a very merry Christmas.

"The same to you, sir, and many on 'em," comes in a murmur all down the table. One enthusiast shouts, "Hurroar for the Captain!" and another ejaculates "Good old Haitch!"

THE CAPTAIN: I think the company has done very well during the year; eh, Colour-Sergeant?

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT: Yes, sir.

THE CAPTAIN: I am presently going to drink your healths, my men, out of the cup which the company holds as champion football company.

Great applause from all down the table, mingled with "D thought they was going to do us" "Mr. Stuart he won that match for us," and the like.

THE CAPTAIN *(encouraged by the applause and thinking that he will risk a little humour)*: It is said that "C" Company, our old opponents, had the bull's-eye flag ready to hoist over their company rooms, but we've got it here, and intend to keep it here.

This hit at "C" is a great success. There is laughter and banging of the tables and cries of "Blind-eyed old C," "Them old sharpshooters of C.'

THE CAPTAIN: Mr Stuart won, as you know, the cup in the officers' steeple-chase.

Tremendous applause; for Mr. Stuart is very popular with the men.

THE CAPTAIN: That, I think, is all I have to say, except that the Colonel congratulated me the other day on having one of the smartest, steadiest, and best behaved——

Private Harden suddenly appears at the door and makes a plunge into the room murmuring, "Gorr' bless the good old Captin, puffectly willing to die for him." He is hustled back to his retirement by two of the sergeants.

THE CAPTAIN *(continuing)*:——companies of the regiment. I drink to your very good health.

MR. STUART: And I do so, too.

The Captain and Mr. Stuart both drain up, the one the cup, the other a glass of beer. Some of the men drink their glassfuls, and there is an appreciative murmur.

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THE COLOUR-SERGEANT (*in his best parade manner*) : I beg to thank you, sir, on behalf of the men for your kind subscription towards the dinner. Likewise Lieutenant Stuart.

The men nearest to the Captain get up from their bench, catch hold of him, and hoist him on their shoulders, carrying him round the room amidst a tumult of shouts and cheering. Then they carry Mr. Stuart round amidst even greater enthusiasm. When the Captain and Mr. Stuart have recovered from this complimentary mauling, the Colour-Sergeant, who has remained quite unmoved, salutes.

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT : May the men go on with their dinners sir ?

THE CAPTAIN : Certainly.

THE COLOUR-SERGEANT (*in a voice of thunder*) : Fall to !

There is an immediate clatter of knives and forks and a hubbub of cries. "Who's the blooming orderly man of this ere squad ?" "Give us a full ration of that old trek ox, Bill." "Don't forget the jipper, mate." "Who'll 'ave a bone of this ostrich ?" and the like. The Captain shakes hands with the Colour-Sergeant, and tells him that he has sent him over a bottle of champagne from the mess for himself and his wife to drink with their Christmas dinner. The two married sergeants he tells to look for a bottle of port apiece when they get back to their quarters. Then he and Mr. Stuart go down the stairs followed a minute later by the Colour-Sergeant and the Sergeants.

THE CAPTAIN (*to Mr. Stuart as they cross the barrack square towards the Officers' Mess*) : Rum beggar, Tommy is, ain't he ? I thought it was better to drink the beer than that awful fire-water they call wine.

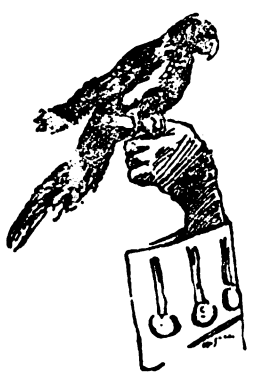
N. N.-D.

In The Man of the World.

———: o :———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—



[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT the festive season is ower.

That it passed maist successfully.

That "D" Company had a "Corney Grain" entertainment on its own.

That pavement makin' has commenced.

That the wild man o' Borneo has jist cam tae Bareilly.

That a new History o' the Seven Years' War is shortly tae be published.

That the fitba' team regained their prestige on the 19th.

That luck wis against them at Cawnpore.

That it wis a peety that the weather wis sae bad.

That it hopes the 25th 'ill tak' mair interest in the national game noo.

That they hae guid enouch players.

That the League is beginnin' tae become excitin'.

That there hae been ane or twa unexpected results.

That fate has been against the Light troop.

That "Saundy" wis a proud man on the 17th.

That it has been a grand month for sport.

That the tug-o'-war wis excitin'.

That there's nuethin' like trainin'.

That it thoucht the final wud hae been a longer pull.

That curiously "Pihla" has baith the "Shields."

That "G" wud like tae hae the twa "Clocks."

That the Regimental Tug-o'-War team has plenty o' material tae select frae.

That it'll hae tae keep up its Hill reputation.

That it's a gran' thing at hame tae be a fechtin' sodger.

That the happy hame 'ill soon be breakin' up again.

That it hopes its left wing cousin 'ill hae mair tae see this year than last.

That mair o' its officers are gainin' distinction.

That mair o' them are anxious in that direction—Africa.

That the first "breeze" has arrived.

That ane or twa o' them ken a' about fitba'.

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Football.

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MESSRS. MURRAY AND CO.'S CHALLENGE CUP.

First Round.

EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT v. 93RD HIGHLANDERS.

There were immense crowds of spectators round the ropes long before 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 19th January to witness this second trial of strength between these two teams. Nearly the whole military strength of Bareilly must have been present, the supporters of each of the principals being ranged up pretty evenly on either side of the field. The whole of the north side of the ground was lined by the men of the East Lancashire Regiment, whilst the south side was equally crowded by our men. The detachment of the Border Regiment, too, had apparently thrown in its lot with the 93rd as there was a good sprinkling of their neat cap badges amongst our diced bonnets.

Both teams were out in good time, and a few minutes after 4 o'clock cheers from the south side announced the fact that Corporal Watson had succeeded in winning the toss, and had naturally decided to play with the wind and sun in his favour. Now amidst cheers from each side the teams took the ground, lining up as follows :—

59th LILYWHITES.

WHALLEY.

ADAMS. JENKINSON.

WADE. BRYCE. CHAPMAN.

ROWAN. BOOTH.

McGUINNESS. CORPL. DAVEY. GOOSE.

WILSON, "G." McKENZIE, "D."

HOUSTON, "G."

LEITCH, "C." CAIRNS, "C."

LCE.-CPL. LCE.-CPL. CORPL.

HUDGSTON, "B." BENSON, "G." WATSON, "F." (Capt).

SCOTT, "B." KERR, "C."

GEDDES, "C."

93RD Highlanders.

Referee.—Lieutenant Toogood, Border Regiment.

Linesmen.—Color-Sergeant Townsend, East Lancashire Regt., and Private Logan, 93rd Highlanders.

The Lancastrians kicked off, and followed the ball down the field a good way before it was returned, and then the play became general.

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It was at once seen that the game would be a very fast one, and so it proved. Aided by the sun and wind our men kept the ball pretty well in the "Lilywhite's" half, except when it was occasionally run out. Our men certainly were having the best of the game, and got a couple of corners which, however, were not put to any account. There seemed also a disinclination to shoot for goal among our forward line, unless at very close quarters, and the centre was certainly handicapped with his left eye bandaged. There were some very pretty bits of play however, all over the field, and the partisans of each side cheered their men to the echo at each turning of the ball. After about twenty minutes play the "Rories" were given a foul from a rough scrummage in front of the 59th's goal, and from this Corporal Watson very neatly scored. There was immense enthusiasm on the south side when the ball went in the net which was immediately taken up by the Lancastrian supporters as the ball was placed for a goal kick; the referee, however, was not to be "bounced," and the cheering rebounding was taken up in one long roar by our men upon the centering of the ball.

The ball had hardly started again before it was run up by the right, and then beautifully netted from the centre. Here the enthusiasm almost broke bounds as victory, unless for superhuman intervention, seemed assured.

For the remainder of the half play was uneventful, both teams playing all they knew, and the Lancastrians' defence being all that could be wished, though they occasionally reverted to kicking out. The whistle sounded at half time with the score :—

93rd Highlanders	2
East Lancashires	0

Re-commencing the play was more even, but equally fast, and the ball travelled up and down the field at a terrific rate. Kerr and Scott were hard pressed at times, but Hudgston covered his back beautifully, and corners were about equally divided, from which nothing resulted. After about fifteen minutes, however, the "Lilywhites" put in a very neat and long shot which beat our defender, and temporarily demented the line of spectators along the north edge of the ground. This seemed to put new life into our team who now had one or two almost miraculous escapes from scoring, until McKenzie on the R. after an encounter with the goal keeper had to leave the field for a few minutes. This, of course, somewhat weakened our attack, but time was getting very close, and although in addition to the loss the play was seemingly telling upon our men, their opponents could get no advantage. McKenzie returned after getting his head bandaged, but it could be seen he was not fit, and it was a satisfaction when the whistle blew with the scores unaltered—

93rd Highlanders	2
East Lancashires	1

The match was certainly a good one, though somewhat rougher than it might have been and there were many more fouls than those given by the referee, some very deliberate and serious ones which should not have been allowed to pass.

The play of our team all round was a vast improvement upon the previous month's exhibition, and the whole team worked hard from start to finish. Towards the end of the game a little "wear" was in some cases noticeable, but this was hardly to be wondered at considering how fast the first half of the game had been, though it proves the necessity for really consistent training. It would be almost invidious to select any one player for commendation, but the play of the captain of the team certainly deserves more than passing mention, and to him, if to any one, belongs the credit of the win.

Second Round.

KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS *v.* 93RD HIGHLANDERS.

Our men journeyed to Cawnpore to play their tie in the second round, leaving Bareilly by the night train on Sunday, 29th ultimo, and reaching Cawnpore on the following morning. The match was played on Tuesday, 31st, in a very high and unpleasant wind which interfered considerably with the play. Losing the toss ours kicked off against the wind and sun, and the 25th were almost immediately down the field, but were well stopped by Kerr. The play then became very even, both sides getting unproductive corners, but our team were, despite the wind, doing most of the pressing. There was an unpleasant sandstorm just before half time, and the whistle blew with the score—0—0.

Changing, over our team, assisted by the elements, naturally had the best of the play, but several chances of scoring were not taken advantage of. Watson and Hudgston did some capital work, and a dangerous rush by the Borderers' right wing was well stopped by Scott. Again our forwards pressed, getting several corners, but luck was against them, though the game was beginning to tell on the home team. At the fourteenth minute from re-starting the ball unfortunately burst on the head of one of the home backs, and there was a rest of 22

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minutes before a new ball could be procured. This gave the 25th respite and time to recoup, and their fatigue on re-starting was not so noticeable. Cairns and McKenzie put in one or two good shots, but they were well saved, and from clearing one the Borderers' right wing ran down the field, centered nicely and the ball was headed into our net, though to all appearances it might have been saved. This was five minutes before time, and the match concluded with the scores :—

King's Own Scottish Borderers ...	... 1
93rd Highlanders	... 0

What might have been a really good game was thoroughly spoiled by the high wind, which prevented anything like good play. Both teams worked hard, and it was merely a piece of ill-luck that lost us the match. It is impossible to help thinking, however, that had our team been under proper supervision and not have slackened down, flushed with their previous success, the result might have been somewhat different. Hard training and fitness will often overcome even the best football, and our team should at least have possessed this. The penalty has again been paid, however, and the reverse has at any rate saved the further expense of sending the team to Lucknow to compete in the finals which would have been necessary had we been successful at Cawnpore. Even taking this philosophic view of the case, the defeat is very annoying, as the Borderers appear to have lost nearly all interest in football at the present time, and were beaten by the Cornwall Light Infantry in the first round of the Bengal Punjab Army Cup. It is to be hoped that their latest victory may stimulate their interest in the national game, and place them again in the front rank of its exponents.

The match was a great contrast to the last one at Bareilly. Instead of the vast and excited crowd round the ropes, as on that occasion, there were only a few hundred spectators from the Cawnpore garrison, with a sprinkling of our men who had gone down on pass to see the match. There was very little enthusiasm displayed, and a casual observer would never have imagined that a cup tie match was in progress. The competing teams were as follows :—

25TH.

CRAIG.

CONNELL. CHESNEY.
STEWART. FOULTON. ROBSON.
KELLY. HOLMES. MULLEN. KELLAGHER. HALDANE.

WILSON. LEITCH. HOUSTON. CAIRNS. McKENZIE.
Lce.-Cpl. HUDGSTON. Lce.-Cpl. BENSON. Cpl. WATSON.
SCOTT. KERR.

GEDDES.

93RD.

Referee.—Lieutenant Kirwan, Royal Artillery.
Linesmen.—Sergeant Turner, 25th, and Sergeant Durnan, 93rd.

LEAGUE MATCHES.

—o—

"A" COMPANY *v.* "F" COMPANY—Played on the 4th January, the latter team winning by 2 goals to *nil*.

"E" COMPANY *v.* "F" COMPANY—Played on the 3rd January, "F" winning easily. Scores—"F" 3 goals, "E" *nil*.

"G" COMPANY *v.* "H" COMPANY—Played on the 5th ultimo, "G" winning by 4 goals to love.

"B" COMPANY *v.* "E" COMPANY—Played on the 6th ultimo, with the result—"E" 2, "B" 0.

"C" COMPANY *v.* "H" COMPANY—Played on the 9th ultimo, resulting in a somewhat unexpected victory for the "Liver" representatives. Scores—"H" 1 goal. "C" *nil*.

"D" COMPANY *v.* "G" COMPANY—Played on the 10th, "G" winning by 3 goals to one.

"F" COMPANY *v.* "H" COMPANY—Played on the 12th, when after a very rough and very exciting game "F" were victorious by 2 goals to one.

"D" COMPANY *v.* "F" COMPANY—Played on the 13th, when "D" by playing a distinctly defensive game managed to keep their opponents from scoring. This was a very exciting match and had considerable influence on the result of the League. Scores—"D" 0, "F" 0.

"B" COMPANY *v.* "G" COMPANY—Played on the 20th ultimo, a very exciting and amusing match. "B" scored early in the game and playing well prevented "G" from equalising. Time was called by the Referee nine minutes too early, and this extra time had to be played on the 24th but without in any way altering the result. Scores—"B" 1 goal, "G" *nil*. This result left the fate of the clock in the result of "F" *v.* "C" Company match.

"D" COMPANY *v.* "E" COMPANY—Played on the 21st ultimo, "E" being victorious. Scores—"E" 2 goals, "D" *nil*.

"E" COMPANY *v.* "G" COMPANY—Played on the 23rd ultimo, resulting in the victory of "G" Company. Scores—"G" 2, "E" *nil*.

"C" COMPANY *v.* "F" COMPANY—Played on the 27th ultimo, and as expected proved one of the best encounters of the season. The play was very fast from start to finish and resulted in a draw, neither side scoring. This result left the League a tie between "G" and "F" Companies, who will necessarily have to play off again to decide the possession of the clock and silver badges.

"D" COMPANY *v.* "H" COMPANY—Played on 28th December, the Right Half representatives being victorious by 4 goals to one.

—:o:—

Cricket.

—o—

FORTY-SECOND *v.* NINETY-THIRD.

Played at Sitapur on the 25th and 26th ultimo, the home team being victorious by an innings and 6 runs. In the second innings of the visitors Lieutenant Gillatt played a dashing innings of 71 and Messrs. Coaker and Campbell assisted with 35 and 24 respectively, but defeat could not be averted. In the field Private Ogden was good behind the sticks, but the batting of the Black Watch was too good for our bowling.

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Their hospitality too was unbounded and the few days at Sitapur could not have been more enjoyably spent by any of our team. The following were the scores :—

FORTY-SECOND.

Captain Trotter, b Coaker	20
Lieut. J. S. C. Murray, b Murray	78
Corporal J. French, c Ogden, b Scott	17
Lieut. H. C. Laverton, c Campbell, b Murray	14
„ F. B. Robertson, c Murray, b Keeble	49
Corporal J. Slattie, c Murray, b Keeble	83
Sergeant W. Howell, not out	35
Lce.-Corporal McKenzie, c Cox, b Keeble	1
Lieut. J. G. Collins, b Coaker	8
Private Colgrave, c Murray, b Herbert	0
Lce.-Corporal Kedge, b Herbert	3
Extras	19
Total	322

NINETY-THIRD.

2nd Lieut. V. A. Coaker, b Laverton,	24	...	b Laverton	35
„ Hon. A. C. Murray, b McKenzie,	0	...	c Howell, b French	4
„ O. C. Herbert, run out	3	...	l.b.w. b Laverton	0
„ J. B. Gillatt ; b McKenzie	6	...	c Burton, b Laverton	71
„ J. B. Macpherson, b McKenzie	7	...	b Colgrave	2
Lieut. R. J. P. Cox, l. b. w. McKenzie	10	...	c and b McKenzie	13
„ J. Campbell, c McKenzie, b Colgrave	13	...	b McKenzie	24
Private Ogden, b French	27	...	b Sttatie	0
Lce.-Corporal Keeble, c Murray, b French	2	...	Not out	6
2nd Lieut. Thomson, b Colgrave	0	...	c Kedge, b McKenzie	0
Private Scott, not out	0	...	run out	0
Extras	10	...	....	19
Total	102	...	....	216

BAND *v.* "F" COMPANY—Played at Bareilly on 30th January resulting in a win for the musicians by 101 runs. Scores :—

Band—Corporal Hall 5, Lance-Corporal Willcocks 0, Private Lillywhite 65, Ogden 11, Burns 44, McGuire 0, Lance-Corporal Lyons 1, Private Johnson 2, Chidley 3 Reynolds 5, Gray not out 0, Extras 20,—Total 156.

"F" Company.—Private Goff 3, Wainwright 5, Stevenson 0, Golightly 0, Fox 2, Atherton 9, Scott not out 1, Miller 0, McGowan 8, Maywood 25, Downs 0, Extras 2,—Total 55.

BAND *v.* "C" COMPANY—Played at Bareilly on the 1st February, the Band wining by 80 runs. Scores :—

Band.—Corporal Hall 0, Sergeant Watters 15, Private Ogden 30, Lance-Corporal Willcocks 13, Private Burns 5, Lillywhite 8, Johnson not out 9, Ward 7, Chidley 2, Hollands 4, Reynolds 2, Extras 16,—Total 113.

"C" Company.—Private Dott 2, Harper 13, Cassidy 1, Lance-Corporal Johnson 0, Private Cairns 3, Corporal Mahoney 2, Private Geddes 9, Lance-Corporal Kelley 0, Private Gibson 0, French 0, Conway not out 0, Extras 3,—Total 33.

BAND *v.* A REGIMENTAL TEAM.—Played at Bareilly, the Band winning by the narrow margin of one run. Scores:—

Band,—Lance-Corporal Willcocks 9, Corporal Hall 19, Private Lillywhite 4, Ogden 22, Johnson 2, Burns 16, Reynolds 0, Chidley 8, Ward not out 10, Dunlop 1, Hollands 0, Extras 20,—Total 111.

Regimental Team.—2nd Lieutenant Coaker 6, 2nd Lieutenant Neumann 0, Hon. A. C. Murray 16, 2nd Lieutenant Thomson 1, Lieutenant Campbell 0, Lieutenant Cox 42, Lance-Corporal Keeble 21, Corporal Fawcett 4, 2nd Lieutenant Craster 13, Private Scott 0, Stevenson not out 0, Extras 7,—Total 110.

DRUMMERS *v.* "F" COMPANY.

Scores :—*Drummers.*—Lance-Corpl. Buchanan 0, Drummer Muchan 1, Burns 0, Lance-Corporal Duff 0, Drummer Coutts 11, Piper Lynch not out 0, Drummer McLauchlan 2, Clarke 12, Ferguson 0, Gibbon 0, Brisland 0,—Total 24.

"F" Company.—Private Miller (Retired) 24, Wainwright (Retired) 20, Lumsden not out 4, Golightly 0, Maywood not out 9, Lightbody 5, Goff 0, Atherton, Hamilton, McGowan and McGee did not bat, Extras 3,—Total (for five wickets) 65.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance Sergeant.—No. 959, Corporal J. Reid, "F" Company, while employed in Gymnasium.

To be Acting Bandsman. No. 5549, Private T. McGuire, "C" Company,

PAY OF RANK.

Lance,-Corporals.—No. 6088, Lance-Corporal R. Milne, "F" Company, dated 24th December : No. 5079, Lance-Corporal D. McGillivray, "B" Company, dated 28th December 1898.

EMPLOYMENT.

In District Staff Office.—No. 4304, Private A. Hansen, "A" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem—

"F" Company.

No. 4617, Pte. J. McWilliam. | No. 4656, Pte. H. Booth.

"E" Company.

No. 4655, Pte. W. Walton.

No. 4646, Pte. W. Gowans. | No. 4630, Pte. G. Duncan.

"G" Company.

No. 4602, Pte. T. Currie. | No. 4645, Pte. H. Kelly.

Restored 2d. per diem—

"B" Company.

No. 4413, Pte. G. Fraser. | No. 3978, Pte. G. Russell.

Granted 1d. per diem—

"A" Company.

No. 5658, Pte. A. Yates.

No. 5969, Pte. J. Thomson. | No. 5994, Pte. A. Rice.

"C" Company.

No. 6032, Pte. J. Youngson.

"D" Company.

No. 5640, Pte. C. Davie. | No. 5990, Pte. J. Bridges.

"E" Company.

No. 5814, Pte. J. Gray.

"G" Company.

No. 5912, Pte. T. McKillop.

"H" Company.

No. 6005, Pte. A. Lyon.

No. 5947, Pte. A. Morrison. | No. 5981, Pte. W. Ferguson

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Restored 1d *per diem*—

"A" Company.

No. 5734, Pte. A. Gibson. | No. 5168, Pte. R. McCallum.

"B" Company.

No. 4835, Pte. M. McFarlane. | No. 5227, Pte. R. Hyslop.

"C" Company.

No. 6064, Pte. N. Campbell.

"E" Company.

No. 5696, Pte. C. Harkness. | No. 4771, Pte. J. Olliver.

"F" Company.

No. 5074, Pte. H. Babbington.

DISCHARGE BY PURCHASE.

No. 4803, Lance-Corporal W. J. Fenton, "G" Company, on payment of £18-0-0.

TRANSFERS.

From Royal Scots Fusiliers—

Private R. Wright and posted to "C" Company.

From King's Own Scottish Borderers—

Private J. Allan and posted to "A" Company.

CHANGE OF NAME.

No. 5539, Private J. Harley permitted to assume the name of David McIntosh.

DRILL CERTIFICATES.

The following Lance Corporals have been granted Drill Certificates:—

No. 5841, J. Brown,	"F" Co.		No. 5254, W. Stewart,	"B" Co.	
,, 5688, F. Roche,	"A"	,,	,, 3548, C. Greenland,	"A"	,,
,, 5079, D. McGillivray,	"B"	,,	,, 6088, R. Milne,	"F"	,,
,, 3123, W. Johnson,	"C"	,,	,, 5885, W. Morrison,	"G"	,,
,, 5842, R. Glass,	"E"	,,	,, 5697, P. McDonald,	"G"	,,
,, 4567, D. Inglis,	"G"	,,	,, 4983, M. Rutherford	"E"	,,

LANGUAGES.

No. 6104, Private H. Wilson, "H" Company, passed Lower Standard Urdu, Part I, at Ranikhet on 3rd October 1898.

THE DRAFT.

The following Non-Commissioned Officers and Men from the Home Battalion are taken on the strength of the battalion and posted to Companies as under :—

"A" Company.

No. 4842, Pte. J. Marshall.	No. 5620, Pte. E. Ellis.
,, 5546, ,, J. McLauchlan.	,, 5791, ,, G. Lees.
,, 5676, ,, D. Wilson.	,, 5914, ,, A. McPherson.
,, 5834, ,, J. McMillan.	,, 5816, ,, J Baker.
,, 5892, ,, J. Adams.	,, 5929, ,, J. Hunter.
,, 5938, ,, J. Thorn.	,, 5970, ,, R. Younger.
,, 5994, ,, A Rice.	,, 5669, ,, T. Chilton.
,, 6051, ,, A. Rodham.	,, 6068, ,, A. Smith.
,, 6074, ,, W. Anderson.	,, 6085, ,, P. Gartens.
,, 6106, ,, J. Blackie.	,, 5780, Boy C. Otto.
,, 5515, ,, J. Maslin.	,, 6582, ,, D. Fraser.

"B" Company.

No. 4198, Lc.-Cpl. J. Ricketts.	No. 5500, Pte. F. Risdon.
,, 5524, Pte. J. Edwards.	,, 5699, ,, D. Kelly.
,, 5741, ,, A. Saunders.	,, 5836, ,, D. Campbell.
,, 5800, ,, J. Gracie.	,, 5915, ,, F Black.
,, 5865, ,, F. Johnstone.	,, 5960, ,, P. Wilson.
,, 5933, ,, A. Robertson.	,, 5995, ,, J. McGrory.
,, 5981, ,, T. McNair.	,, 6053, ,, G. Kay.
,, 6014, ,, A. Baxter.	,, 6076, ,, J. Woods.
,, 6070, ,, J. Seton.	,, 6464, Boy F. Mangan.
,, 7072, ,, R. Jamieson.	,, 6535, ,, T. Cridland.
,, 5300, ,, J. Wands.	

"C" Company.

No. 5454, Pte. D. Ritchie.	No. 5533, Pte. J. McLean.
,, 5531, ,, D. Aird.	,, 5751, ,, J. Marquis.
,, 5735, ,, T. McManus.	,, 5811, ,, M. Ginlay.
,, 5845, ,, J. Hendry.	,, 5755, ,, J. Smith.
,, 5549, ,, T. McGuire.	,, 5872, ,, F. Campbell.
,, 5915, ,, J. Bisland.	,, 5935, ,, D. McAulay.
,, 5964, ,, R. Monteith.	,, 5985, ,, D. Stevenson.
,, 5997, ,, J. McGuire.	,, 6016, ,, J. McDonald.
,, 6054, ,, A. Simpson.	,, 6082, ,, D. Wallace.

No. 6449, Boy G. Yeo.

"D" Company.

No. 1360, Sergeant J. Jeffrey.	No. 5530, Cpl. S. Gurney.
,, 5380, Cpl. G. McLuckie.	,, 5378, Pte. C. Campbell.
,, 5540, Pte. D. Lamont.	,, 5409, ,, J. Wilson.
,, 5654, ,, T. Logan.	,, 5790, ,, F. Williams.
,, 5830, ,, A. Murray.	,, 5963, ,, J. Hamilton.
,, 5733, ,, J. Dawson.	,, 5873, ,, D. Telfer.
,, 5915, ,, D. Hughes.	,, 5936, ,, J. McNiff.
,, 5967, ,, J. Brodie.	,, 5990, ,, J. Bridges.
,, 6005, ,, R. Wilson.	,, 6029, ,, W. McIntyre.
,, 6067, ,, H. Love.	,, 6102, ,, J. White.
,, 6087, ,, D. Miller.	,, 5566, Boy A. Wilson.
	,, 6566, ,, C. Hoey.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

FIRST CLASS.

Granted 1st *class Certificates of Education, dated* 27th *September* 1898.

No. 3306,	Lance-Sergeant A. Lockie,	"B"	Company.
,, 3531,	,, ,, F. Marks,	"H"	,,
,, 2809,	,, Corporal T. Lyons,	"E"	,,
,, 3054,	Private E. Miller,	"F"	,,

Passed Part I.

No. 5562,	Private J. McNair,	"C"	Company.
,, 5048,	,, T. Hamill,	"A"	,,
,, 4619,	,, W. McKinnon,	"G"	,,

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

Passed for promotion to undermentioned ranks and granted certificate :—

To Rank of Sergeant.

No. 959,	Lance-Sergeant J. Reid,	"F"	Company.
,, 4484,	Corporal P. Matthew,	"E"	,,
,, 4806,	,, J. Hearn,	"G"	,,
,, 2479,	,, D. Gordon,	"A"	,,

To qualify in Subject (e).

No. 3628,	Corporal F. Poole,	"G"	Company.
,, 3662,	,, F. Harvey,	"H"	,,

To Rank of Corporal.

No. 3344,	Lance-Corporal A. Laurie,	"F"	Company
,, 4567,	,, ,, D. Inglis,	"G"	,,
,, 5763,	,, ,, R. Allison,	"C"	,,
,, 2809,	,, ,, T. Lyons,	"E"	,,
,, 4883,	,, ,, M. Rutherford,	"E"	,,
,, 5256,	,, ,, T. Atkinson,	"E"	,,

MARRIAGES.

MASKELL-FOGG.—At Christ Church, Bareilly, on the 2nd January 1899, Corporal A. Maskell, 93rd, to Ellen Maud, daughter of Mrs. Macbean, 93rd, and the late Mr. W. Fogg of Saharanpur.

LOCKIE-CAMERON.—At St. Andrew's Church, Bombay, 4th January 1899, the Rev. J. Mackay officiating, Sergeant A. Lockie, 93rd, to Jessie, daughter of Mr. Andrew Cameron, Paisley, late Orderly Room Sergeant, 4th Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

BUSH-WORALL.—At St. Andrew's Church, Bombay, 4th January 1899, the Rev. J. Mackay, officiating, Colour Sergeant H. W. Bush, 93rd, to Bessie Bagot, daughter of Mr. John Stringer Worall, London.

BYRNE-MCARDLE.—At the Roman Catholic Chapel, Bareilly, on the 11th January 1899, Schoolmaster T. P. Byrne, 7th Royal Fusiliers to Mary Josephine Frayne, daughter of School Mistress McArdle, 93rd Highlanders.

BIRTHS.

STEWART.—At Bareilly, on the 8th December 1897, the wife of No. 2627, Sergeant J. Stewart, of a son—John.

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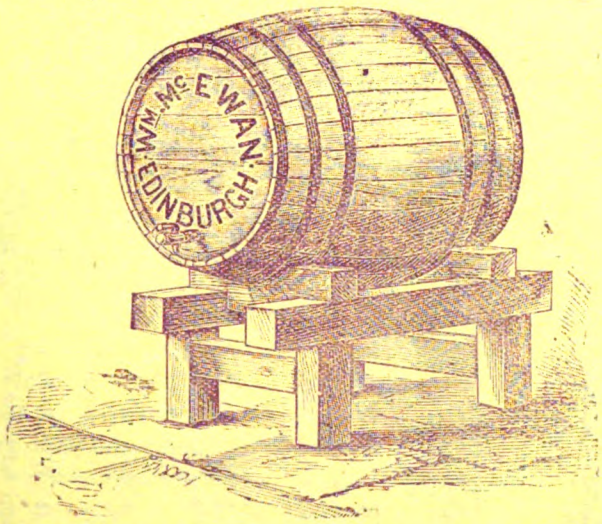

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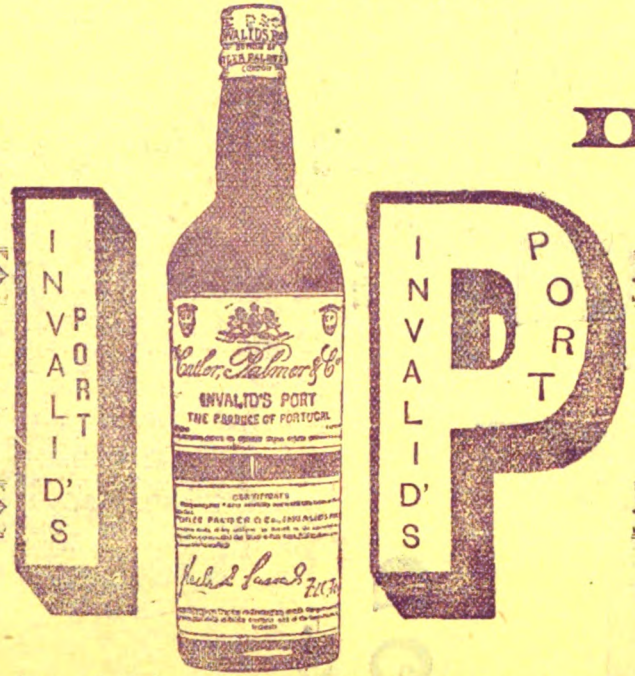

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 10—Vol. IV. BAREILLY,—MARCH 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE battalion was on the 3rd ultimo exercised in night operations, companies falling in on their own parades just after dusk; and the whole rendezvoused by the Native Infantry quarter guard at a quarter to seven. The parade was a very instructive one and the battalion returned to barracks about 8-30 P.M.

* * * * *

On the following day "G" and "H" Companies went out in the afternoon to act upon the defensive against the East Lancashire Regiment, who were on the final parade of their annual inspection. The parade proved a somewhat protracted one, "G" and "H" not getting back to quarters much before eight o'clock in the evening.

On Tuesday, 7th, there was an elaborate scheme of outposts practised under the following general and special ideas :—

General Idea.—A force is retiring through Bareilly on Shahjehanpur.

Special Idea.—The force halts on the 7th February at Kesharpur on the Shahjehanpur road.

The Officer Commanding 1st Brigade (3 battalions) is ordered to take up a line of outposts along the Nakutia River to cover the force. He accordingly issues the following orders :—

I.—The force halts to-day at Kesharpur. The outposts will be furnished by the brigade and will take up a line of observation on south-east of Nakutia River, right at Bharton, left at railway bridge over the river. No. 1 Battalion will occupy the right section from Bharton to a point opposite the burial ground. No. 2 Battalion will continue the line to the railway bridge and form second section. No. 3 Battalion will be in reserve at Para.

II.—In case of attack the line of the river will be held.

III.—The railway bridge over the river and the bridge on the Shahjehanpur road should be prepared for defence and strongly held.

IV.—Examining posts will be placed on the bridges mentioned in paragraph 3 and at the fords. The line may be crossed at these points only.

V.—Piquets will be numbered from the right.

VI.—I shall be at Para.

Countersign——Chaubattia.

N.B.—The Nakutia is considered fordable only at the fords now used by native carts.

The outpost line was in position by 10-30 A.M., and was visited by the General Officer Command-

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ing, who commented upon the dispositions, mostly in an approving manner, and altogether a very instructive morning was spent, the battalion returning to barracks at about the dinner hour.

* * * * *

This seems especially the season of competitions, and the possession of the only remaining trophy, the Physical Drill Shield, was decided on Saturday, 18th ultimo. Only two days' notice was given, which did not allow of much time for practice, but this in no way interfered with the average excellence of the seven teams representing each of the companies of the battalion, except "G." Shortly after eleven o'clock the *tamasha* was commenced by "A" Company's representatives, and for the next two hours or more the band was busy. Each squad as it performed the various exercises was vociferously cheered by its particular partisans around the ground, in the hope, no doubt, of favourably impressing the umpires, but Lieutenant Alington (Adjutant of the East Lancashire Regiment), who had very generously consented to act in this capacity, and his assistant, Sergeant-Major Lundie, were not to be caught in this manner, and both were agreed in giving their decision in favour of "C" Company's team, who performed the whole of the practices almost without a hitch and obtained nearly the full number of marks.

"C" Company's team consisted of the following:—

Lce.-Sergeant Richmond and Privates French Farquharson, Ritchie, McManus, Monteith, Marquis, Wallace, Smith, Watson, J. Macdonald (6016), J. Macdonald (5548), J. Campbell, Stevenson, Stewart, Brodie, Jack, Hoy), Hurry, Aird, Henry, J. McLean (5583), Adams, Gibson and McAulay.

* * * * *

After just two months the battalion has again divided, "A," "B," "C" and "D" this time going to Shahjehanpur, leaving the left half, yclept head-quarters, to proceed to Chaubattia in due course.

* * * * *

On Monday, 20th February, the right wing paraded at 6-45 A.M. *en route* to their new station. Captain Robinson was in command with 2nd Lieutenant Herbert as acting Adjutant, and the wing numbered some four hundred men. Before leaving all the drafts had been transferred to the left half to proceed to the hills, and the right half had been made up by the exchange of some twenty or thirty seasoned soldiers per company to take the place of the men thus transferred.

The lines at Bareilly are wearing a most deserted appearance, half the bungalows being now empty, and the four companies at head-quarters are scattered through the barracks. A parade has again assumed somewhat infinitesimal proportions, and white helmets seem much in the majority. The training of the several teams for the forthcoming assault-at-arms goes merrily forward, and if nothing is won it will not be through the old complaint—insufficient training.

It seems rather unfortunate that the regiment should have been divided before the assault-at-arms, but scarcity of transport accelerated the dismemberment of the battalion, and the majority of the right wing were not sorry at the prospect of early settling down in their summer quarters. The march to Shahjehanpur is four easy stages, and the wing reached their destination on Thursday, 24th ultimo.

* * * * *

As was expected, the tussle for the possession of the Football Clock was a protracted one. Two matches were necessary before any decision could be arrived at, and then "F" only won by the narrow margin of one goal. History has almost repeated itself, as the result of the League fixtures for 1892-93 left the same two companies a tie with an equal number of points; on that occasion it was necessary, however, to play three matches before a definite result could be arrived at, and then "G" were eventually victorious. Only two players who figured in those contests represented their companies in this year's matches—Sergeant Durnan, a member of "G" Company's team of 1893, and Private Fox, who has always played for "F" Company.

* * * * *

The small detachment that did duty at Shahjehanpur during the winter marched to Bareilly with the transport returning from

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taking the right wing down there, and arrived on the morning of the 27th.

* * * * *

During the last month the Officers and Sergeants had their annual football encounters, the first match going to the non-commissioned officers by one goal to *nil*, whilst in the return match they were victorious by five goals to one.

The Sergeants also played the return match against their brother non-commissioned officers of the East Lancashires. The match after much excitement and fast play, especially during the frequent intervals for refreshment, resulted in a draw, three goals each, time being very considerately extended by the referee to allow the teams to equalize.

* * * * *

The 1st Sutherland Rifle Volunteers hold a record that is probably unequalled by any volunteer corps in the United Kingdom. The following extract from their battalion orders will explain their performances of which they may well be proud :—

The commanding officer is pleased to publish the following remarks by the general officer commanding Scottish district, in a letter to Colonel Menzies on the results of the Field Practice Association :—"The G. O. C. is extremely gratified at the extraordinary success the battalion has obtained in the Field Practice Association competition. By winning every cup offered the battalion has established a unique record, which it will be hard to beat. The success is all the more well deserved as the battalion has so consistently entered for these competitions and given the Association such great support from the commencement. The G. O. C. therefore wishes to be conveyed to the officers, adjutant, and all members of the corps his most hearty congratulations, and hopes the battalion may long continue to hold these cups, as the result shows the great interest taken by all ranks in that most necessary portion of musketry, *viz.*:—Collective practices combined with good fire discipline."

* * * * *

Captain H. Vallancey and 2nd Lieutenant J. B. Gillatt have passed in (*a*) and (*b*) for promotion.

* * * * *

The days are once more beginning to lengthen, and the hour of sounding "Retreat" has again been postponed to six o'clock.

* * * * *

The sergeants' farewell quadrille party on the 16th might have been seriously interfered with had the fire, which occurred just before midnight in the East Lancashire lines, been of more serious dimensions. As it was dancing was stopped for nearly half an hour through the migration of nearly all the male portion of the dancers, plus the band, at the call of duty; the battalion probably made record time in falling in, all the senior non-commissioned officers being immediately available, and the companies were soon on the parade ground, ready for any emergency.

The cause of the alarm was the straw huts built for the shelter of their followers by the East Lancashire Regiment, to the north of their camp, and which, owing to their inflammable nature, were ablaze in almost an instant. The fire naturally soon burnt itself, and the "disperse" sounded, and the battalion was dismissed; the men to court slumber again, and the sergeants to "trip the light fantastic" or discuss the many topics of interest incidental to the threshold of the refreshment tent. The interval afforded by the alarm had fortunately been taken advantage of for supper, to which the guests had been conducted by the few hosts available.

Several E. P. tents pitched over the tennis court made an excellent supper rooms, and it is to be hoped that the assimilation of the excellent menu proved a salve to the injured feelings of the dancers. Dancing recommencing was kept up well into the "sma' hours," the prospect of an early brigade parade seemingly having few terrors. Color-Sergeant Ditcham and his committee are to be congratulated upon their excellent arrangements and the success of the dance.

* * * * *

On the morning following, the 17th ultimo, there was an as strong as possible parade for manœuvre from which the battalion did not return until mid-day. This was followed in the evening by the event of the Bareilly season, the officers' farewell dance in the Bareilly Club house, when all the fair and brave of Bareilly were present.

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The guid folk of Aberfeldy have accepted for preservation and exhibition in the Town Hall the tunic and medals of Donald Cameron of Tighnalechan, an old "thin red line" hero, whose demise was chronicled in the December 1897 No. of this journal.

The medals are the Crimean, with clasps for Alma, Balaklava and Sebastopol, and the Turkish medal for the same campaign.

* * * * *

The Black Watch are again the winner of the Army Athletic Championship, and have Sir George White's challenge shield for another twelve months.

* * * * *

On Friday, 24th, "E" and "F" Companies practised long range volleys and company attack over the country south of the Nakutia Nallah, whilst on the following day "G" and "H" fired over the same ground.

To prevent accidents the inhabitants of an adjacent village were warned to remove themselves during the practices; this called forth a petition from them questioning the necessity of moving, and appealing to our gallantry by piteously representing the inconvenience to which the *purdah-nashin* ladies would be put by having to depart from their homes.

Such appeal could not unfortunately interfere with the exigencies of the service, and the villagers, *purdah-nashin* ladies and all, were ordered to quit until the danger of ricocheting bullets was passed. The practices were carried out without any hitch and with, we believe, most satisfactory results.

* * * * *

The second draft from home, consisting of Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish, one sergeant, one corporal and 74 men, arrived at Bareilly on the 14th ultimo; there being no accommodation available, they were not detained in the rest camp, but marched up to barracks in the afternoon and were posted to the companies of the left half battalion. The battalion had just completed General's Inspection on the afternoon of their arrival, and the band and pipes had only time to leave parade and play them into barracks.

The following are the names of "A" Company's Tug-of-war team, winners of the Regimental Trophy:—

Corporal D. Gordon, Lance-Corporal W. Moat, Drummer Muchan and Privates Brown, Campbell, H. Allan, W. Allan, J. Allen, Dick and McLennan, Trainer and Coach Corporal A. Rankin.

* * * * *

Brigadier-General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn K.C.B., C. M. G., held his annual inspection of the battalion on Monday and Tuesday, 13th and 14th ultimo, and after a very searching and strict inspection was pleased to express himself thoroughly satisfied with all he saw.

* * * * *

Captain Stainforth, Assistant Inspector of Army Signalling, had his annual examination of our signallers on the 23rd, the examination being by the new test. The result of course will not be known for a few weeks, but it cannot be expected that our signallers will hold such a good position as in former years, as the majority of them are recently trained men, and twelve out of the eighteen examined were never previously before an examining officer. This year the training of new hands will take place at Shahjehanpur, and only a few of the most experienced signallers will proceed to Chaubattia.

* * * * *

We have had several entertainments in the Outram Institute during the late month, the most noticeable being the "Great Bunvards" who played to crowded houses for five successive nights and were decidedly above the average of the usual travelling company met with in Hindustan.

* * * * *

The month concluded with the district assault-at-arms held on the last two days, when the battalion was fortunate enough to secure several of the most important events including the physical drill, mile race and tug-of-war. A full account of this interesting and long expected event is, however, given in another column, so we need not particularise here except to mention how capitally Private Mossman won the mile, and to admit that the comparatively easy win of the tug-of-war came somewhat as a surprise.

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Death of Colonel Joyner.

—o—

ONE OF THE THIN RED LINE.

—o—

GENERAL regret will be felt at the intimation of the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Joyner, which occurred early yesterday morning at his residence, Argyle Cottage, Cults. Colonel Joyner had been in failing health for a considerable time, and more recently as one saw him taking his walks abroad, it was only too evident that his constitution, which had carried him triumphantly through many an experience marked by great privation, as well as through many a hard-won battle-field, was rapidly giving way. Death was due to general break-down of the system.

John Joyner had a most distinguished career. A native of the parish of Lonmay, he joined the 93rd (Sutherland) Highlanders as a private in February 1840. He served for two years at Fort George and Aberdeen, when he embarked with his regiment for Canada. After serving alternately in Toronto, Kingston, Montreal, and Quebec (at the latter town he was slightly frost-bitten) he returned home after an absence of six years. As a non-commissioned officer he was noted for the precise and strict discharge of all duties entrusted to his care, and among his follows was a general favourite. The title they gave him, "Honest John," proves that he possessed the backbone and sterling qualities which have made Scotland's sons famous all over the world. On the outbreak of the Crimean war, the 93rd were ordered to proceed to active service, arriving in the Crimea in September 1854. During the succeeding two years he shared in all the hardships and difficulties of that memorable campaign. He was present at, and took part in, the battles of Alma on 20th September 1854; Balaklava ("Thin Red Line"), 25th October 1854; Kertch and Yenikale, 16th May 1855; and Sebastopol, 8th September and 18th June. In one of these engagements he rendered special service in the defence of the colours, while in another he was slightly wounded by the bursting of a shell.

In connection with the famous stand of the "Thin Red Line," Colonel Joyner vouched for the accuracy of the following description of an episode which brought undying glory to the British army:—

"The great body of Russian cavalry charged the 93rd at the outset, and although the 93rd were deserted by the Turks, they still stood firm. Sir Colin Campbell rode along the line, and said, 'Steady, 93rd, for if necessary every man of you must die where he stands.' The universal and cheery cry, 'Aye, Sir Colin, we will do that,' must have told the old chief that he might place every confidence in the regiment. It was a noble sight, that thin red line of Highlanders standing shoulder to shoulder, prominent, before three armies silent, watchful, and confident of themselves. They were in excellent spirits, cheerful, perfectly free from anxiety as to their isolated and critical position, and seemed rather pleased that they were alone, and that everything depended on themselves. I do not think there is a single man in the ranks that ever thought once of yielding a foot of ground, and felt the least inclination to flinch or to turn aside before the charge of the rapidly advancing cavalry. On the contrary, they seemed to have settled themselves firmly on the spot with the stern resolve to receive the shock of the coming charge, and to accept the hand-to-hand struggle. When Sir Colin thought that the rifles would reach the dense advancing mass, he ordered the line to fire a volley. The cavalry still advanced, and a second volley rang forth, and it was seen that there was a little hesitation, a little unsteadiness in the enemy's ranks. Then burst forth from the line a cheer and the men stepped forward as if they would meet the enemy with the bayonet. The enemy swerved to the left, as if to get behind the 93rd, but the Grenadiers poured a volley round by their left, and they rode off the field, followed by a wild cheer from the 93rd, which from that day has been spoken of as the 'Thin Red Line.'"

Peace being restored, Colonel Joyner returned to Britain in June 1856, when he received the Crimean medal with three clasps for Alma, Balaklava, and Sebastopol; the Turkish medal and the French war medal for valour and discipline. In addition, he had received his commission as quartermaster whilst in the Crimea. In June 1857, the regiment embarked for China; but, the Indian Mutiny having broken out in the interim, they were, whilst passing through the Bay of Bengal, signalled by the Governor-General to land at Calcutta. This being done, active operations were at once commenced to quell the mutineers. The many forced marches, difficulties, and climatic trials borne by the army in subduing these fanatical and treacherous foes are matter of history. Joyner bore his full share as shown by his Indian record, thus—Relief of women and children, Lucknow 14th to 20th November 1857; defeat of Gwalior force at Cawnpore; battles of Serai Ghat, Kaleh Nuddee, Lucknow siege, 2nd to 21st March 1858; Allygunge, Bareilly, 5th May 1858; Posgaon, 19th October, 1858; Russelpore, 25th October 1858; and subsequently the storming of Fort Mithoulie. For the signal achievements at Lucknow he was presented with the Indian Mutiny medal, with two clasps. In March 1870, he returned with the regiment to Aberdeen, and for the next ten years discharged the duties of paymaster, to which position he had been promoted six years previously. He retired from the army as a staff paymaster, in October 1886, after a service extending to over forty years; and was subsequently promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Colonel Joyner married Christina, eldest daughter of the late Robert Campbell, wood merchant, Aberdeen, but she pre-deceased him. For the past twenty years he resided at Argyle Cottage, Cults, and took a lively interest in every work tending to the welfare of the district.

Prior to the separation of Banchory-Devenick by the Boundary Commissioners, he for many years acted as chairman of its Parochial Board, and infused an interest into the work which had formerly been recognised as of a humdrum character. His purse was opened freely to deserving objects, and there are many who will miss the helping hand of the gallant old soldier, whose word once passed could be strictly relied upon.

From the Aberdeen Journal.

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The Rohilcund District Assault-at-Arms.

—o—

BAREILLY in common with other military centres celebrated the conclusion of the winter drill season by an assault-at-arms, though this year with a somewhat less than normal garrison, the tournament must have been necessarily on a smaller scale than had Rohilcund held its full complement of troops. As it was instead of three, but two battalions of British Infantry, excepting some two hundred men of the Border Regiment, furnished competitors, and the number of entries was no doubt still further reduced by the move the week previous to the assault-at-arms of our right wing to Shahjehanpur. Of Native Infantry there were none in the station; the Kelat-i-Ghilzais having gone away to Calcutta, and the 5th Bengal Light Infantry in relief not being due to arrive until the end of present month. The Native Cavalry were all there however, and their wrestling on horseback and section tent-pegging was, as it almost invariably is, distinctly good. There being no Native Infantry in the station, there were naturally no events set apart for this branch of the native army, and consequently no representatives from the Gurkha Regiments at either Lansdowne or Almora visited Bareilly. As a matter of fact one battalion of the 3rd Gurkhas from the first mentioned station was *en route* to the Khyber at the time, and both Lansdowne and Almora are such a far cry from the district winter centre that it would be almost too much to expect competitors to attempt the journey. As it was the programme extended over two days, and the second must have been a very long and tiring one, especially for the Committee and Judges. Brigadier-General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, K.C.B., C. M. G., under whose sanction the meeting was held, was present during the greater part of both days, whilst at the conclusion Lady Meiklejohn most graciously condescended to present the prizes to the successful competitors and teams. Each corps in garrison was represented on the Executive Committee, which consisted of Lieutenant-Colonel Watson, East Lancashire Regiment; Captain Robinson, 93rd Highlanders; Captain Geddes, R. A.; Captain Wood, Border Regiment; and Captains Chaplin, 8th Bengal Lancers, with Captain Stuart, East Lancashire Regiment, as Honorary Secretary.

On the first day, Monday 27th, only the preliminary heats except gymnastics were decided, all the final and the most interesting events being left for the second and last day.

The day's proceedings started in the morning in the Garrison Gymnasium, where competitions on horizontal and parallel bars for both instructors and others were decided. In the first we only had one competitor, and both first and second prizes went to the Border Regiment's representatives; whilst in the second nobody represented us, and there were only four entries altogether, a very poor show for a district. It is impossible to help noticing that all our winners of gymnastic and skill-at-arms events at the usual regimental gatherings were not entered to represent the battalion in the district assault-at-arms, no doubt owing to the majority of them being at Shahjehanpur.

The open-air events were in front of the Grand Stand on the Race-course at about 3-30 in the afternoon and consisted of Bayonet *v.* Bayonet, Bayonet *v.* Sword (dismounted) and Boxing, Light and Heavy Weights for British troops; Sword *v.* Sword and Sword *v.* Lance (mounted) for the Bengal Cavalry, and last but not least Tug-of-War between the Border Detachment team and ours, the East Lancashires being fortunate enough to get a bye.

The bayonet and sword competitions each left four competitors, for semi-final and final ties, for the next day, but the boxing except for light weights left only the final round for decision. The tug-of-war followed immediately upon the boxing, and two of our team could not have been very fresh nor fit for pulling, as the sweat from their agility in the ring had not dried upon them when they stood to the rope. The pull was, however, not a severe one, and only lasted about four minutes, so their condition had probably very little effect upon the result. The pull was not a very exciting one, the Borders naturally having no pretensions, but their team seemed capitally trained and contained one or two fairly weighty men. Our team was unfortunately neither heavy nor representative of the regiment, but the best that could be obtained at the time, and they were in good training. Our men got down capitally when the strain was taken, and only received a temporary check when the Borders turned and heaved. This did not last long, however, and a gradual walk backwards eventually brought the whole of the rope over the line. If the Fifty-fifth's team is a sample calculated on the percentage of their men at Bareilly, the regimental team, when all together, should need a lot of beating. Dusk was coming on apace as the raising of the General's stick announced the fact that the pull was over and the first day's sport had finished.

The fencing was decided in the gymnasium on the morning of the second day, Sergeant Reid being first, and thus tying with Lance-Corporal Whittey of the Border Regiment for "best man at arms." Afterwards, however, it was decided to

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include the horizontal and parallel bars display in deciding this, and Sergeant Reid, not having competed in gymnastics, was much to his disgust relegated to second place.

There being many events to decide in the afternoon the programme was arranged to open at 2-30 P.M., and soon after this hour the various bayonet and sabre fighting, semi-finals and finals, commenced.

The heat of midday was allowed to wear off before any team competitions started, the alarm posts being the first. In this the team of the Border Regiment led off followed by the East Lancashires and then by ours. The two latter tied, and had to perform the practice again when owing to the loss of a few seconds in fixing bayonets, before firing the last volley, our team was forced to take second place. Bayonet exercise followed, and here again ill-luck followed us and the Lancashires were again awarded the first prize. The event upon which, excepting the tug-of-war, most interest was centered came next and Mossman's victory seemed to be the turning point of our ill success. Six competitors started in the Mile Race, the R. A. and East Lancashires each having a representative. There was a false start, but on getting away again the artillery man went ahead, followed by Mossman for a few yards, but the latter almost immediately changed his tactics and dropped into fourth place behind Simmons of the 59th. There were four laps to the mile and Corporal McLuckey although apparently running well retired at the second; Comrie, however, was keeping well behind and appeared to be taking it quite easily. This order continued until a little more than half a lap from the winning post, when Mossman passed both his leaders on the outside and was soon several yards to the good, in fact he had time to turn round and wave a defiance to his rivals when well past them, and as he reached the tape showed his freshness by indulging in a hand spring past the Judges. The win was by a clear twenty yards in 4 minutes 52 seconds; the Lancashire and Battery representatives were close together for second and third places. The physical drill followed, and whilst this was in progress, there was also tent-pegging and the boxing to distract attention, especially the latter, which seemed to be more interesting to the bulk of the spectators than the musical display. Sergeant Clarke's team performed first, and only one slight mistake was noticeable. The East Lancashire team followed, and it was no surprise at the finish to find our squad had been awarded first place. Still another success was in store for us however. The event of the day, the tug-of-war, now only remained to be decided, and this followed close upon the physical drill display. After the pull at Ranikhet it was quite expected that the East Lancashires would strain every nerve to equalise, and with their selection it was not expected that this would be such a difficult matter, more especially as our team could by no means be called thoroughly representative. Private McInnes, who had never recovered from the injury to his hand sustained at the pull in Ranikhet, had unfortunately after a few days' training to abandon the idea of pulling, and one or two others not considering themselves equal to the strain of lengthy training, the selection became somewhat limited. Unfortunately, too, at almost the last moment, Lieutenant A. H. Maclean sprained himself at a practice pull and still another waiting man had to be taken in. These repeated misfortunes had to a certain extent a somewhat demoralising effect all round, reflecting all the more credit upon the ten who fought against it and won. Sergeant Durnan as on the previous evening had the selection of ground and the team stood to the rope in the same order as against the Border Regiment. Counting from the front came:—Robinson, "B," Fraser, "F" Scott, "H," H. Allan, "A," Blythe, "B," J. Allan, "A," W. Allan, "A," French, "C," Ferguson "B," and Lance-Sergeant Reid, "F." The "Lily-whites" did not appear to be quite up to their Ranikhet standard, but still had the advantage of weight, as could be seen when both teams were lying on the rope. Captain Stuart centered the rope, and the words "Are you ready," "Take the strain" were awaited in breathless silence.

"Heave!" Our men got down to the rope beautifully gaining about a yard by their smartness. Then the dead weight of a hang on began to cause a slow drift in favour of the "Lily-whites," whilst the excitement became, if possible, more intense. After some seconds (it might have been seconds, or it might have been hours) the return came, and inch by inch, foot by foot, the rope was worked back again. The Lancashires turned but to little effect; at a signal from their coach our team turned also, then the 59th fronted and pressed the rope down, but still our men increased their exertions, and their pace, almost breaking into a double, as their opponents' resistance became less, and the last of them came over the line. The pull, although of course gratifying, was somewhat disappointing and could not have lasted five minutes. By the time the pull was over, and the excitement engendered had evaporated, it was almost dusk, and the massing of torches in various parts of the ground signalised the fact that the time for the grand *finale*, the "Torchlight Retreat," was almost at hand. There were a few mounted events until it was quite dark however, and at the end

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Lady Meiklejohn presented the prizes; then as the night gave full effect to the blazing flambeaux the massed bands surrounded by their torch-bearers advanced as in review order upon the grand stand. "The Campbells are Coming" heralded the advance of our pipes and drums from the left as the band ceased playing, and an Irish Quickstep by the drums and fifes of the Lancashires took up the swing when the pipers stopped. "Retreat" was then sounded by the massed buglers and as its echoes died away the pipes and drums played the usual dirge, the swinging of the drum major's staff forming an imposing accompaniment to the slow music. A lively air in quick time by the fifes came as a pleasant contrast, and then followed a selection from "Faust" by the band, who, together with the torch-bearers, were nearly the last to leave the ground, the large crowd of spectators under the soothing influence of the music having gradually melted away. Altogether the battalion's first experience of an assault-at-arms in the Rohilcand District has been distinctly favourable, and may be looked back upon in future years with satisfaction. The following were the principal events for British troops with results:—

GYMNASTIC COMPETITION.

Sergeant Gardiner, Border Regiment	1
Lance-Corporal Whittey, Border Regiment	2

GYMNASTIC COMPETITION (Instructors excluded).

Private Hughes, East Lancashire Regiment	1
Lance-Corporal Kielty, Border Regiment	2

BOXING—HEAVY WEIGHTS.

Private W. Allan, 93rd Highlanders	1
„ J. Allan „ „	2

BOXING—LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Private Robson, East Lancashire Regiment	1
„ Howard, Border Regiment	2

SABRE (DISMOUNTED) *v.* BAYONET.

Lance-Corporal Lambert, East Lancashire Regiment...	1
Lance-Sergeant Reid, 93rd Highlanders	2

BAYONET V. BAYONET.

Lance-Corporal Whittey, Border Regiment	1
Sergeant Gardiner, Border Regiment	2

FENCING.

Lance-Sergeant Reid, 93rd Highlanders	1
Lance-Corporal Whittey, Border Regiment	2

ALARM POST (Squad, 1 N.-C. O., 10 men).

East Lancashire Regiment	1

BAYONET EXERCISE (Sqnad, 1 N.-C. O., 20 men).

East Lancashire Regiment...	1

MILE RACE (Open).

Private Mossman, 93rd Highlanders	1
„ Simmons, East Lancashire Regiment	2
Driver Brown, 70th F. B., R. A.	3

PHYSICAL DRILL (Sqnad, 1 N.-C. O., 20 men).

93rd Highlanders	1

BEST MAN AT ARMS.

Lance-Corporal Whittey, Border Regiment	1
Lance Sergeant Reid, 93rd Highlanders...	2

TUG-OF-WAR.

93rd Highlanders	1
East Lancashire Regiment	2

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT a' the clocks and shields hae been disposed of.

That the fitba' clock seems a fixture.

That there wis a gran' fecht for it.

That the badges 'ull be worth hae'in'.

That the fire alarm nearly spoiled the dance.

That it wis fortunate the fire wis no a big ane.

That the battalion turned oot ower smairt.

That the second breeze his arrived.

That they wis no dangerous.

That they wis no segreegated or whatever ye ca' it.

That the right wing are awa' for the simmer.

That it's cousin at Shahjehanpur should hae mair to sae this year.

That it's a peety the regiment cudna' hae been a' thegither, till efter the assault-o'-arms.

That there are maistly all white topies noo at Bareilly.

That the het weather is comin' on apace.

That the team most entitled tae the Physical Drill wis the band.

That it's a spleendid specimen o' the British soldier.

That it's a grau' waltzer.

That ane o' the draft wanted a bannet fu' o' auld iron for a rupee.

That the shroff didna' see it

That the auld iron wis tickets.

That it's no partic-tic-ticu-liku-lic-lic.————(The last invaliding board sat on the 14th.—ED.).

That the Physical Drill team worked like ane man.

That the tug-o'-war wis a surprise.

That it wis a better pu' on the first day.

That it didna' need its temperature ta'en.

That the mile wis a guid race.

That Mossman didna' fash himsel'.

That tae many cooks spoil the knil.

What its cousin at Shahjehanpur says:—

That the result o' the sports wis hailed wi' joy,

That it had a *thora* on the mile.

That the strong men are as guid as ever.

That it believes whiskey wis scarce at Bareilly after the final pull.

That Fagin seems tae be only a distant relation o' Rafferty efter a'.

That the R. T. R. eventually arrived.

That workin' pay disna' tak a trick.

That there has been a famine in the land.

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Football.

—o—

"F" COMPANY *v.* "G" COMPANY.

THESE companies both having an equal number of points in the League fixtures, it was necessary to play an extra match to decide the possession of the clock and the silver badges. Both teams had good records, "F" never having lost a match, though they had been unfortunate enough to play three draws, and "G" only had one unlucky day, with "B," against five wins and one draw, this being against their present opponents when after a hard match the result was one all.

First Match.

The match was arranged for Monday, 6th ultimo, and soon after 4 o'clock the teams took the field. "F," having won the toss, decided to play with the wind and "G" kicked off with the sun at their backs. Unfortunately neither teams were at their full strength. "F" were without Corporal Watson, a most serious loss, and "G" lacked the services of Lance-Corporal Jamieson and Private Kelley. Lieutenant Webb, Quartermaster of the East Lancashire Regiment, had kindly consented to act as referee, and the importance of his services could not be overrated.

The competing teams were as follows :—

"F" COMPANY.

PTE. MAYWOOD.
SGT. DURNAN. PTE. MCNEE.
CORPL. FORBES. PTE. McGOWAN. PTE. BRACEY.
PTE. FOX (CAPTN.) PTE. O'CONNOR.
PTE. SMITH. PTE. RAE. PTE. McLOUGHLIN.

PTE. WILSON. PTE. McAULAY. PTE. FORBES.
PTE. HOUSTON. PTE. TAYLOR.
PTE. BROWN. LCE.-CORPL. BENSON. PTE. PULLAR.
PTE. McKAY. PTE. MULLHOLLAND.
PTE. McCULLOCH.

"G" COMPANY.

"G" kicked off, and after one or two passes, despite being against the wind, pressed and became, aided by the sun, very dangerous ; the game, however, was very fast, and, although "G" had the best of the play and kept the ball, mostly down in their opponents' half, the Blues back division played a splendid game and several times their forwards ran the ball up, but shot somewhat wild. After repeated breaks away, however, and at about twenty minutes from starting, the ball was beautifully taken up to "G's" end, and O'Connor placed it very neatly in the net to the great delight of "F's" supporters, who were mostly round the W. goal. The remainder of the half was pretty evenly contested and the teams crossed over with the score one *nil* in favour of "F."

Restarting, "G," assisted by the wind, commenced pressing in real earnest, but the goal was beautifully defended and nothing could be made from repeated corners. Once or twice too "F" got away but shot wild, and the pressure upon "G" Company's goal was never sustained. About a minute and a half before time "G" were awarded a penalty kick, and this giving them their opportunity, Houston equalised, the ball just turning off the goal post and rolling into the net. The whistle blew almost immediately afterwards with the score at one goal each. After a short consultation it was decided to play extra time and the teams again lined up. The first ten minutes were all in favour of "F," who made many attempts to score, the ball however mostly going high. "G" Company too did not seem to be quite so fit as their opponents, but the score still remained unaltered. The second ten minutes was equally unproductive, and the whistle finally blew with the score as before. There was naturally considerable enthusiasm displayed by the spectators throughout the game, the partisans of either side showed their appreciation of each piece of good play of their men by boisterous cheering, and there was the promise of still greater excitement in the next encounter.

Second Match.

On Thursday, 9th, the second and as it proved, the final encounter took place, both teams lining up as on the previous occasion, and consequently neither at their full strength. This time "G" were fortunate in the spin of the coin and, there being no wind, elected to play with the sun. "F" consequently kicked off from the E. end about 4-15, and play soon became general. "F" played a much better game at the commencement than in the previous match, and certainly had the best of the play. Although shooting was somewhat wild the continual pressure eventually told, and O'Connor scored very neatly from just in front of the W. goal. "F" were thus leading at half time as on the former occasion by one goal to *nil*.

On restarting "G" tried all they knew to score, and "F" Company's goal was hotly besieged on several occasions, but McGowan and the backs repeated their play of the previous match and the goal remained impregnable. "F" certainly made a great mistake in play-

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ing such a strictly defensive game; by keeping well up the field their forwards might have again scored and pressure would have been better relieved by a counter-attack. "G" Company were, however, prevented from scoring and "F" secured the trophy for another twelve months.

Lieutenant Webb of the East Lancashire Regiment was again Referee, and the linesmen were Privates Carter, "B," and Leitch, "C."

The clock was on view on the ground during the progress of the game, and Captain Robinson made the presentation to the skipper of the winning team immediately upon its completion when it was carried back in triumph to the company.

The following is the result of the League up to the end of the present season :—

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Goals. For.	Goals. Against.	Points.
"F" Company ...	9	5	0	4	11	3	14
"G" " ...	9	5	2	2	12	5	12
"C" " ...	7	3	2	2	9	3	8
"E" " ...	7	3	3	1	9	6	7
"H" " ...	7	3	4	0	4	15	6
"B" " ...	7	2	4	1	4	6	5
"D" " ...	7	2	4	1	9	11	5
"A" " ...	7	1	4	1	2	11	3

THE SILVER BADGES.

In addition to receiving mementos of this season's League "F" Company's team of 1896-97 are entitled to badges for that season. The badges are shortly expected, and will be engraved with the names of the following recipients.

For Season 1896-97.—Corporals Watson and Forbes, Privates Anderson, Babington, Fox, McLoughlin, McNee, O'Connor, Rae and Smith.

For Season 1898-99.—Sergeant Durnan, Corporal Watson, Privates Bracey, Fox, McLoughlin, McNee, McGowan, O'Connor, Smith and Rae.

:o:

Funeral of Colonel Nightingale.

—o—

The funeral took place on Saturday, with military honours, of Colonel A. C. Nightingale, formerly commandant of the 91st Regimental District (Stirling), who died at Stirling on Tuesday last. Colonel Nightingale's long and honourable connection with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, extending over a period of 40 years, and the high esteem in which he was held both in military and civil life were reflected in the large and representative gathering of mourners. Amongst those present were:—His Grace the Duke of Montrose, Lord-Lieutenant of the country; Colonel Trotter, commanding the 91st District; Colonel Chater, commanding the 25th District; Captain Moulton Barrett, A. D. C. to General Chapman, representing 2nd Battalion; Captain and Adjutant Mackenzie, Lieutenant Tweedie, and Captain Denholm, A. and S. Highlanders; Major Woolridge Gordon, Captain Pattan, Quartermaster-Sergeant Boyd, from the 1st Battalion, Dublin; Captain and Adjutant Foster and Captain Macrae, from the 4th Battalion, Paisley; Major Fowler and Captain Forbes, late and S. Highlanders; Brigade-Major Cole, Hamilton, Clyde Brigade; Major Sands, Army Pay Corps; Captain Bunny and Lieutenant Lovett, Army Ordnance Corps; Sergeant-Major Lindsay, Stirling Castle; Drum-Major, Pipe-Major, and five pipers from the Royal Scots, Maryhill; Piper Jack, with His Grace the Duke of Montrose; and 30 members of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Association, Glasgow, under Sergeant-Major Smith, vice-president; besides representatives from all the volunteer corps in the district. There were 200 soldiers present from the Castle, which included a large escort party in review order. The coffin was carried from the residence of the deceased to the East Church on the shoulders of six sergeants of the depôt, and at the church a short service was conducted by the Revs. J. P. Lang and G. Mure Smith. As the body was being removed from the church the buglers sounded the "last post" with impressive effect. The coffin was then placed in a hearse drawn by four horses, and the cortége wended its way to the railway station by way of Spittal Street, King Street, and Murray Place. All the shops on the line of route were closed, and the streets were thronged by an immense concourse of spectators. At the station the coffin was carried from the hearse to the railway carriage by members of the Ambulance Corps, and the carriage was subsequently attached to the 11-58 train for Glasgow. The body was afterwards removed to the Crematorium in the Western Necropolis, Maryhill, in accordance with the wish of the deceased.—*From the Sterling Observer.*

:o:

The G. O. C.'s Inspection.

—o—

The annual inspection of the battalion was held on the 13th and 14th February. On the first day we paraded at 8-15, and marched out to the centre of the race-course and formed up in column. The G. O. C. arrived at 9 A.M. sharp, and the officers were then called out in succession to drill the battalion. On returning to barracks the General inspected the regimental and company books, etc., and then visited the barracks, saw 2 companies in marching order, inspected the kits of 2 other companies, and saw sections of the remaining companies at shelter trench drill.

In the afternoon we were exercised in the attack of a position. The enemy were represented by 2 companies of the East Lancashire Regiment, who took up a position near the railway station. We assembled near Captain Rimington's bungalow, and advanced parallel with the railway, sending 2 companies across the railway to turn the enemy's right. The ground was very favourable to the advance, being much cut up by small nullahs, and we got close up to the enemy's position without having been much exposed. The cease fire sounded just as the enemy's right was turned and was falling back.

On the 14th we were again on parade on the race-course at 9 A.M. when we did the physical drill and then ran 1,000 yards. At 11 o'clock B Coy. did the "attack" practice on the range, after which the Officers and Staff Sergeants fired 6 rounds with the revolver.

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In the afternoon the battalion paraded in review order, and found it pretty warm. We were to receive the General at 4 P.M., but as a matter of fact at 4 P.M. the General was on his way to the saluting base after having inspected both ranks and the band. After we had marched past in column and quarter column, Major Campbell put the battalion through the manual and firing exercises and the Adjutant the bayonet exercise. We then advanced in review order and returned to barracks. General Sir W. Meiklejohn expressed himself satisfied with what he had seen.

———: o :———

Cricket.

—o—

BORDER REGIMENT *v.* 93RD HIGHLANDERS.

PLAYED at Bareilly on the 4th February, ours winning by 15 runs and 3 wickets. In the first innings the Borders held the advantage by 7 runs, but going in a second time Messrs. Herbert and Coaker changed the complexion of the game altogether, and practically settled the result before being separated. The following were the scores :—

BORDER REGIMENT.

	1st innings.		*2nd innings.*	
Private Cuthbertson, b Keeble	...	12	c—b Coaker	1
,, Buckley, b Coaker	...	2	c—b Coaker	0
Lieutenant C. Toogood, c—b Coaker	...	0	not out	42
Captain L. I. Wood, b Keeble	...	13	c—b Coaker	9
Color-Sergeant Mole, c—b Coaker	...	3	b Keeble	1
Sergeant Watters, b Keeble	...	5	c—b Coaker	3
Lieutenant Gordon, b Coaker	...	2	b Keeble	6
Private Roberts, c—b Keeble	...	14	c—b Keeble	1
,, Thompson, c—b Coaker	...	5	c—b Coaker	1
,, Brokey, c—b Keeble	...	4	c—b Keeble	5
,, Gouge not out	...	4	run out	0
Extras	...	2	.....	1
Totals	...	67		70

93RD HIGHLANDERS.

	1st innings.		*2nd innings.*	
Lieutenant O. C. Herbert, b Roberts	...	6	c—b Roberts	31
,, J. B. Gillatt, run out	...	2	c—b Wood	4
,, V. A. Coaker, c—b Roberts	...	25	b Roberts	20
,, R. J. P. Cox, c—b Wood	...	8	b Wood	4
,, C. A. H. Maclean, c—b Wood,		0	b Wood	0
,, Martin, c—b Wood	...	5	did not bat	
,, J. Campbell, b Thompson	...	9	c—b Wood	4
,, Elphinston, b Wood	...	0	not out	3
Lce-Corpl. Keeble, b Thompson	...	0	not out	9
Lieutenant Morant, b Wood	...	0	did not bat	
Lce.-Corporal Johnson, not out	...	1	b Wood	7
Extras	...	4	.....	10
Totals	...	60		92

———: o :———

Hockey.

—o—

BAND *v.* "B" COMPANY—Played on the 9th ultimo, resulting in a win for "B" Company by 9 goals to 3. "B" Company's win was in a great measure due to the fact that the Band were without practice. Lyons and Benson played a dashing game as backs for the losers, whilst McFarlane, Logan, Russell, Stevenson and J. McGillivray were the shining stars on the winning side.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant.—No. 3610, Lance-Sergeant J. Stobbie "G" Company, dated 19th December 1898; No. 3306, Lance-Sergeant A. Lockie, "B" Company, dated 22nd December 1898; No. 3077, Lance-Sergeant C. Johnstone, "B" Company, dated 21st January 1899.

To be Corporals.—No. 3765, Lance-Corporal J. Adcock, "B" Company, dated 22nd December 1898; No. 4290 Lance-Corporal J. Duff, "D" Company, dated 24th December 1898; No. 3557, Lance-Corporal F. Hiscock, dated 21st January 1899.

To be paid Lance-Sergeants.—No. 3535, Corporal J. Richmond, "C" Company, dated 19th December 1898; No. 4484, Corporal P. G. Mathew, "E" Company, dated 22nd December 1898; No. 3531, Corporal F. Marks. "H" Company, dated 21st January 1899.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Bandsmen.—No. 6449, Boy W. Yeo, "C" Company; No. 5780, Boy C. Otto, "A" Company; No. 6464, Boy F. Mangan, "B" Company; No. 6582, Boy D. Fraser, "A" Company.

To be Pipers.—No. 4620, Private J. Fleming, "B" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5003, Private W. Hall, "E" Company; No. 5163, Private J. Allan, No. 5182, Private T. Morrison, "D" Company; No. 5499, Private D. Gordon, "B" Company; No. 5551, Private W. Montgomerie, "E" Company; No. 5644, Private G. Munro, No. 5827, Private G. Clarke, No. 6200, Private Lumsden, "F", Company; No. 5945, Private A. McCrae, No. 6063, Private H. Munro, No. 6035, Private G. Richardson, "H" Company.

PAY OF RANK.

Lance-Corporals.—No. 5254, Lance-Corporal W. Stewart, dated 1st January; No. 5493, Lance-Corporal J. Hudgston, dated 5th January; No. 4199, Lance-Corporal J. Ricketts, "B" Company, dated 21st January 1899.

TRANSFERS.

Inter-Company.

No. 3610,	Sergeant	J. Stobbie,	"G"	to "D"	Company.
,, 3306,	,,	A. Lockie,	"B"	,, "G"	,,
,, 3077,	,,	C. Johnstone	"B"	,, "D"	,,
,, 3144,	Lce-Segt.	W. Olden,	"H"	,, "A"	,,
,, 3764,	Corporal	J. Adcock,	"B"	,, "G"	,,
,, 3276,	,,	J. Ward,	"G"	,, "A"	,,
,, 3138,	,,	W. Fawcett,	"E"	,, "C"	,,
,, 3557,	,,	F. Hiscock,	"F"	,, "A"	,,

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No. 4290, Corporal J. Duff, "D" to "C" Company.
„ 5780, Bandsman C. Otto, "A" „ "C" „
„ 6464, „ F. Mangan, "B" „ "H" „
„ 6582, „ D. Fraser, "A" „ "F" „
„ 4620, Piper J. Fleming, "B" „ "C" „
„ 5229, Private F. Saunders "F" „ "C" „

EMPLOYMENT.

As Acting Pipers.—No. 5128, Private R. Anderson, "E," Company; No. 5107, Private B. Gordon, "E" Company' No 6566, Boy C. Hoey "D" Company.

To be Acting Drummers.—No. 6083, Private G. Miller, "D" Company, No. 5990, Private J. Bridges, "D" Company; No. 6016, Private J. McDonald, "C" Company; No. 6014, Private A. Baxter, "B" Company.

To be Church Orderly.—No. 6133, Private G. Roberts, "G" Company.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

No. 6844 to Private R. Wright, "C" Company.

EXTENSIONS OF SERVICE.

To complete 12 years' service.—No. 4620, Private J. Fleming, "C" Company.

THE SECOND DRAFT.

The undermentioned having joined from the home battalion are posted to companies as under:—

"A" Company.

No. 2922, Corporal G. Bertram.

"E" Company.

No. 5876, Pte. G. Candlish.
„ 6134, „ G. Ferns.
„ 6213, „ A. Campbell.
„ 6247, „ J. Steward.
„ 6277, „ W. Crichton.
„ 6343, „ J. Henderson.
„ 6356, „ J. Wilson.
„ 6391, „ W. Melville.
„ 6429, „ D. Turnbull.
„ 6418, „ J. McKenzie.
„ 6461, „ G. Shanks.
„ 6473, „ T. Duncan.
„ 6491, „ J. Herbert.

No. 6090, Pte. N. McPhee.
„ 6190, „ G. Taylor.
„ 6232, „ A. Kay.
„ 6254, „ E. McLean.
„ 6296, „ J. Gellately.
„ 6338, „ W. Balfour.
„ 6374, „ A. Crawford.
„ 6397, „ J. Wright.
„ 6430, „ T. James.
„ 6440, „ W. Davitt.
„ 6479, „ A. McFarlane.
„ 6484, „ J. Bradley.
„ 6495, „ T. Ross.

"F" Company.

No. 4535, Segt. J. R. Barrett.
„ 6144, Pte. J. Munro.
„ 6182, „ A. Watt.
„ 6212, „ A. Wallace.
„ 6237, „ A. Hogg.
„ 6265, „ J. Woodside.
„ 6312, „ J. Paton.
„ 6335, „ D. McReath.

No. 6179, Pte. J. Davidson.
„ 6210, „ J. Moore.
„ 6245, „ F. Ross.
„ 6259, „ A. Auchinvole.
„ 6266, „ J. McLaren.
„ 6315, „ P. Oliver.

"G" Company.

No. 6069, Pte. J. Anstruther.
„ 6172, „ F. Eite.
„ 6216, „ D. Brodie.
„ 6238, „ J. Smith.
„ 6262, „ G. Gilfillan.
„ 6286, „ J. Allan.
„ 6342, „ W. Williamson
„ 6346, „ R. McMillan.
„ 6375, „ D. Donaldson.

No. 6126, Pte. J. Clarke.
„ 6202, „ J. McInnes.
„ 6248, „ J. Murray.
„ 6272, „ J. Leitch.
„ 6292, „ J. Sutherland.
„ 6319, „ J. Johnstone.
„ 6336, „ A. McKinnon.
„ 6357, „ G. McMillan.

"H" Company.

No. 6011, Pte. M. Farrell.
„ 6149, „ D. Devlin.
„ 6249, „ T. Cosgrove.
„ 6270, „ R. Gray.
„ 6302, „ J. Sutherland
„ 6357, „ J. Livinstone.
„ 6392, „ G. Rarity.
„ 6415, „ G. Caskil.
„ 6448, „ C. Turnbull.

No. 6107, Pte. W. Grant.
„ 6205, „ J. McArthur.
„ 6251, „ P. Beck.
„ 6295, „ W. Alder.
„ 6344, „ F. Eskew.
„ 6378, „ H. Nevard.
„ 6427, „ H. Reid.
„ 6453, „ J. Craig.
„ 6218, „ G. Murphy.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2*d.* per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 4696, Pte. B. Harris.

"C" Company.

No. 4902, Pte. G. Golledge.
No. 4679, Pte. R. Leitch. | No. 4621, Pte. J. White.

"E" Company.

No. 4668, Pte. W. Forbes.

"F" Company.

No. 4678, Pte. C. McCredie.

"H" Company.

No. 4682, Pte. A. Gray.

Restored 2*d.* per diem:—

"D" Company.

No. 3290, Pte. T. Gibbons.

Granted 1*d.* per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 5049, Lce.-Cpl. J. Rafferty.
No. 4786, Pte. G. Chapman. | No. 4664, Pte. J. McAllister.

"B" Company.

No. 6014, Pte. A. Baxter. | No. 5524, Pte. J. Edwards.
„ 5474, „ J. Robertson. | „ 6053, „ G. Kay.

"D" Company.

No. 4879, Pte. R. Baillie.

"H" Company.

No. 6024, Pte. J. Wallace.

Restored 1*d.* per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 5058, Private G. Briton. | No. 5048, Private J. Hamil.

"C" Company.

No. 4563, Pte. A. Adams. | No. 4286, Pte. A. Foreman.
„ 4874, „ P. Gibson. | „ 4875, „ H. Harley.
„ 5511, „ A. Jack. | „ 5454, „ D. Ritchie.

"D" Company.

No. 5116, Pte. A. McDonald. | No. 4547, Pte. J. White.
No. 5248, Pte. J. Orr.

"G" Company.

No. 4830, Pte. P. Campbell.

"H" Company.

No. 4832, Private P. Bradley.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENTS.

		£	s.	d.
"B" Company, No. 4 Section...				
Section Commander, Sergeant W. Stonor		2	11	4½
"E" Company, No. 1 Section		0	8	6½
Section Commander, Sergeant W. Weller		0	17	3
"F" Company, No. 3 Section...		0	2	10½
Section Commander, Corporal A. Miller		1	0	3
"G" Company, No. 1 Section		0	3	4½
Section Commander, Color-Sergeant J. Middleby ...		0	16	6
"H" Company, No. 4 Section		0	2	9
Section Commander, Sergeant R. Dunkeld		1	3	7½
"C" Company, No. 1 Section		0	3	11½
Section Commander Corporal E. Mahoney		1	11	6
"A" Company, Color-Sergeant R. Mitchell		0	6	4
No. 4304, Private A. Hausen		0	5	0½
„ 4789, „ T. Sheridan		0	5	0
„ 3930, „ W. McMaster		0	5	0
„ 5031, „ R. McKay		0	4	3
„ 5270, „ J. Fraser		0	3	6
„ 5171, Drummer J. Coutts		0	3	6
„ 3022, Lance-Corporal W. Moat ...		0	3	0
„ 3852, Private G. Buchanan ...		0	3	0
„ 5199, „ A. Dott		0	3	0
„ 6047, „ T. Gannon		0	3	0
"G" Company, „ 5612, „ McCulloch		0	3	0
„ 5787, „ J. Chapman		0	5	0
„ 5427, „ R. Henderson		0	4	6
„ 3236, Sergeant R. Miller		0	4	0
„ 4156, Private C. Jenkins		0	3	3
"H" Company, „ 5607, „ W. Pollock		0	3	0

:o:

SUPPLY CERTIFICATES.

Granted certificates qualifying for employment in supply duties in the Commissariat Transport Department, dated 18th January 1899.

No. 3596, Corporal A. Rankin, "A" Company.
„ 5501, Lance-Corporal J. Houston, "D" „

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SUTHERLAND · HIGHLANDERS · 93

The Thin Red Line.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE · ALMA · BALACLAVA · SEVASTOPOL · LUCKNOW

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 11—Vol. IV. CHAUBATTIA,—APRIL 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

BUSTLE and confusion, with the usual surfeit of fatigues, inseparable to the moving season, heralded in the month of March. Bareilly had to be vacated by the 3rd, and everything was to be handed over to the Border Regiment, whose head-quarters would arrive from Quetta on the 6th. On the night of the 2nd, one hundred men under Lieutenant A. H. Maclean, with all the heavy baggage, left for Kathgodam, and the remainder of the wing after parading at a quarter to nine in the morning, marched to the station and left for the same destination by train just after ten o'clock. Major Campbell was in command with Lieutenant J. Campbell as Acting Adjutant, and the entraining strength of head-quarters including the advanced party, was some four hundred and fifty rank and file.

* * * * *

On the day of head-quarters' departure the Rohilkand Volunteer Rifles had General's Inspection, which was followed in the evening by their annual dance. On this occasion the Outram Institute was well filled with bright uniforms and tasteful dresses, with just a sprinkling of the tartan, worn by a few fortunate ones who had not marched away with the regiment, to complete the picture

* * * * *

Up to date nothing of any importance or interest has disturbed or brightened the settling down process we are going through, nor are there any startling changes in the external appearance of Chaubattia to note.

The march up was not marked by anything of an unusual or unexpected character. The five stages (same as last year) were—Ranibagh, Brewery, Bhowali, Rattighat, Bamshaon, Chaubattia. The best march was undoubtedly from Bhowali to Rattighat—a down grade through a fine bit of scenery, the

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beauty of which was enhanced by the vivid scarlet of the rhododendrons in full bloom. From Rattighat to Bamshaon, and thence to the foot of the "Corkscrew Hill," the dust made the going anything but pleasant.

Opinion concerning the "Corkscrew" was unanimous.

* * * * *

First impressions of Chaubattia itself were that it was looking somewhat rusty and dusty—the greenery and flowers following the rains having apparently disappeared before the rigours of winter.

But on second thoughts—engendered by the magnificent appearance of the *khud* sides as viewed from various points on the cart-road—we came to the conclusion that, dulness and sundry minor discomforts notwithstanding, Chaubattia is not half a bad refuge from the greater discomforts of the "plains."

Our amusements and recreations have, up to the present, been unaccompanied by excitement. There has been a little football of sorts, and it may be mentioned that "G" and "H" Companies have commenced their field training. Otherwise the tranquillity of our daily routine has been undisturbed.

In the matter of recreation the Sergeants have had to content themselves with Badminton and long walks, the tennis-court being "under repair." It is rapidly approaching completion, and it is hoped that it may shortly be possible to resume the pleasant games which were such a success last year, though a few of the "old familiar" faces will be missed.

* * * * *

We are advancing. Two seasons ago cycling was undreamt of in Chaubattia; last year we had our "one and only cyclist" for a few weeks at the tail of the season; this year two or three machines have already made their appearance.

* * * * *

The verandahs added to the bungalows during the winter months are voted by all who were here last season a great improvement.

The most interesting events in our last week's quiet programme were the series of Football matches which culminated on Saturday in an encounter between our officers and those of the East Lancashires. (The term encounter is not used unreasonably, as we fancy most of the spectators will agree).

To get themselves as fit as possible for the occasion our officers had previously gone through the double ordeal of meeting a team of Non-Commissioned Officers and of Sergeants: they were beaten on both occasions. These reverses prepared us for Saturday's disaster—a victory of two to nothing for the East Lancashires.

There was a good attendance, the *élite* of Ranikhet joining with Chaubattia leaders of fashion in regarding the event as a social function.

"Tommy" grouped himself picturesquely along the *khud* side, and enjoyed himself.

The play was very interesting—to lovers of the curious. It consisted for the most part of a series of onslaughts on the players nearest the ball. Fortunately no one was killed.

Occasionally a little variety was afforded by the ball going over the boundary fence erected last year, and rolling a few hundred yards down the *khud*. Lieutenant Campbell of ours, at full-back, did the work of three men, and had all our side played as well and untiringly, we should not have had the ball so frequently near our end of the "field." Lieutenant Webb's task as goal-keeper for the East Lancashires was an easy one.

* * * * *

The few remaining musketry casuals, under Lieutenant Elphinston, were exercised directly the range here at Chaubattia could be got in order.

* * * * *

The rate of exchange for calculating the pay of the British troops in India for the ensuing twelve months has been fixed at one shilling and four pence the rupee. This is rather a convenient rate as an anna is now the equivalent of a penny, but otherwise this raising of the exchange is anything but an advantage.

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We have received the following from Brigadier-General Egerton, C. B., D. S. O., A. D. C :—

LUNDI KOTAL:
February 27th, 1889.

DEAR SIR,

I must write a line to thank you for the copy of *The Thin Red Line* you so kindly sent me, though the very flattering remarks in it about myself rather put me to the blush.

It was a real pleasure to me to meet the 93rd again, and I am glad to gather from the Regimental paper that the pleasure was reciprocal.

Yours truly,

C. C. EGERTON.

To the Editor of the Thin Red Line.

* * * * *

Sergeant Dunkeld has won the Rohilkand Volunteer Rifles "All Comers" "Unlimited Entry" competition with a score of 93. The match was fired simultaneously at Shahjehanpur, Bareilly and Moradabad on the 11th ultimo, and Sergeant Dunkeld made his score on the range at the first named place.

* * * * *

In addition to the many other amusements the left wing have engineered a couple of concerts; one in the Sergeants' Mess, in celebration of nothing in particular, though it is worthy of note that the date selected was that following St. Patrick's Day, and the other under regimental arrangements in the theatre on the 29th ultimo. The latter is merely the first of a series proposed to be held during the summer months, *al fresco* if possible, as the weather gets warmer, and which it is to be hoped may prove the precursory movement of the revival of that long dormant institution, the "Regimental Dramatic Club."

* * * * *

The regimental "gaff" was honestly a success. The leading spirits in getting it up were the Drum-Major and Sergeant Matthews. The former was very much in evidence on the night and announced the various items with amusing originality. His bassoon solo, too, was one of the funniest things of the show. One pleasing feature of the entertainment was the new "talent" discovered. It was a treat to those of us who were getting a little too accustomed to the old songs and old singers to have a variety in both respects. Private Ritchie was the success of the evening. In him we have a good pianoforte player, and although his voice was not perhaps quite equal to his powers as an executant, he made up for the lack of *timbre* by the quality of the fun provided in his original efforts, particularly in his "sympathetic little ballad about Ireland, composed when *very* young."

Ritchie is decidedly an acquisition. Captain Darroch was very successful, singing his songs with splendid "go." He was encored to a man after his first effort. We liked also the singing of Private Cairns who gave the "Monarch of the Wood" and "Love's own Sweet Song" in very fine style.

The remaining items, with two exceptions were fairly good, but do not call for any special mention.

* * * * *

2nd Lieutenant W. G. Sandeman has joined the battalion, and been posted to "E" Company.

* * * * *

Interspersed with the ordinary routine this month has been productive of a couple of route marches, a khud climb or two, and all the companies have in turn fired seven rounds at a vanishing target, and concluded the Musketry year of 1898-99.

* * * * *

Owing to the change of temperature between Chaubattia and Bareilly serge clothing was taken into wear immediately upon head-quarters arriving at their destination, but as the weather is becoming somewhat warmer with the advance of spring the indispensable khaki has again been reverted to for wear during the day time. The nights are still chilly, however, and a greatcoat can be appreciated after *tattoo*.

* * * * *

The following are the names of the team which won the Physical Drill competition at the recent assault-at-arms at Bareilly:—

Commander.—Sergeant W. Clarke.

Team.—Privates Adams, Tosh, Ewen and McLean, "E" Company; Maywood, McNee, Smith, Fox and Miller, "F" Company; Andrews, McAulay, Munroe, McKenzie and Allan, "G" Company; Cattanach, Scott (5017), Patterson, Wright, Hawthorne and Carruthers, "H" Company.

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The hockey matches have been—

(1) East Lancashire Officers *versus* Ours, (Result E. Lancs. 3 goals, Ours 2 goals), and (2) a mixture—Ladies and Gentlemen on either side. A heavy downpour of hail came along, and interfered with the tail end of the "mixed match," and created *almost* as much excitement as the hockey.

* * * * *

What splendid fellows, we here in India, must be, for says a paper published at Frankfort, in an article on the British Army :—

"Anyone who has seen English officers sauntering in the streets, and soldiers only at the canteen, is inclined to be sceptical as to our cousins' warlike spirit. The former dangle their sticks with the air of *flaneurs*, and the latter excel as professional loafers, if they are good for nothing else. The 'fall in' in an English garrison town excites a German military man's contempt; a parade leaves him shaking his head; and manœuvres only serve to accentuate the difference between the Briton and ourselves. There is very little display except in the gorgeous uniforms of the Royal Dragoons and other *corps d'élite*. It is far otherwise with the colonial army. There the British lion shows himself in all this strength and glory. The Highlander in the north-western mountains of India who plays his bagpipes after his legs have been carried off is a type, not an exception. On such does England rely in her hour of stress. The home army is more or less of a luxury. No one fears an invasion, for the Channel Bridge is not yet in existence. Just as the Dutch are secure when they break down their dykes and drown the invaders, so do the English rejoice in the embrace of their darling ocean. And should they have to face foreign warfare they have their vigilant colonial troops, their incomparable Marine. Such comfortable reflections as these explain the firmness of England on the Fashoda question."

In the first camp at Ranibagh a certain N. C. O., well acquainted with the road to Chaubattia, in describing it to his less fortunate comrades was heard to remark that it was—"a level road with an incline."

Notes of the Right Wing at Shahjehanpur.

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ALTHOUGH it is now some fifteen months since it was first officially notified that Shahjehanpur would be one of the stations to which the battalion would proceed on returning from field service, it has not been the fortune for more than the junior wing to be stationed here, the superior attractions of the hills during the hot weather, and of Bareilly in the winter drill season, added to the exigencies of the service having so far proved too strong for head-quarters and all the excellence appertaining thereto. Last year it was the fortune of "E," "F," "G" and "H" Companies to test the quality of a Shahjehanpur summer, and report having been decidedly favourable, the advent of the *punkah*-pulling period is being viewed with equanimity not unmixed with pleasure, by those of the right wing whose turn it has now come to exchange the healthy ozone of Chaubattia's six thousand feet together with its many exhilarating pastimes (khud-climbing and hill manœuvres presumably —Ed.) for the heat and sandstorms of Shahjehanpur. Last year the literary ability of the wing here could hardly be called conspicuous, and hilly head-quarters, except very occasionally, were denied the pleasure of reading, in the pages of the "*Thin Red Line*," of the many pursuits and pleasures of their less fortunate brethren of the plains. This year, however, by a judicious distribution of the staff it will be attempted to overcome the difficulty, and these notes from Shahjehanpur will, it is hoped, prove as interesting and voluminous as contributions from head-quarters.

Having made this slight digression as an explanation for the heading, which otherwise might have somewhat startled our regular readers by its unexpectedness, an attempt will be made to chronicle the doings of the right wing since the commencement of its being—the 20th March 1899. Parading at Bareilly at 7 A. M. on this date, "A," "B," "C," and "D" Companies, under the command of Captain S. L. Robinson, commenced their march, which proved, as was only expected, a particularly pleasant and agreeable one. The distances were all easy; first to Faridpur some twelve miles, then to Futehganj ten more, afterwards another ten to Tilhar, and finally thirteen-and-a-half more miles to the destination, or a total of forty-six miles through the most interesting and historic section of Rohilkand. Arriving at Shahjehanpur on Thursday, 23rd. the wing were soon settled down, the small detachment of the Royal West Kent Regiment in barracks, who had been sent up from Dum Dum for

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the benefit of their health, facilitating matters by furnishing the guard for three days after the wing's arrival.

Since arriving there have been many things to chronicle. The day after getting in there was a Hockey Match, and since then every evening has produced some sporting event. A few days after settling down "B" Company commenced military training and "D" were also struck off for a couple of days for "preliminary drills." The Musketry year, 1899, could not, however, be anticipated to any greater extent, and actual firing had to be delayed until the advent of "All Fools' Day."

March, especially for the first few weeks, was abnormally hot, but latterly stiffish winds blowing all day have slightly reduced the temperature. The *punkahs* will not start swinging until the middle of April, but the summer season was officially recognised as commencing on the 19th ultimo, and since then guard-mounting has been at 7 A.M., parade at 6-30 and all out-door work is, if possible, over by an early hour. Summer clothing has also become *de rigeur.*

The sergeants have made preparations for their summer amusements by renovating their Tennis Court and by marking out a Badminton one. This game has apparently caught the popular fancy, as a Badminton net has lately been seen erected outside the Drummers' Bungalow, and the Corporals have also expressed a tendency towards the same species of mild dissipation. Some swimming enthusiasts gave a most excellent and novel entertainment in the baths on the evening of the 21st, whilst a week or so previously the branch of the A. T. A. had a presentation of medals and a concert, on the occasion of the visit of the General Secretary of the Association, to Shahjehanpur.

Major Napier left Shahjehanpur on the evening of the 10th ultimo, travelling by the night mail to Bombay *en route* for home. All the officers and a few of the sergeants of the wing were at the Railway Station to wish him "*bon voyage*," whilst the pipers played a selection on the platform during the half hour or so that the train waited; "Happy we've been a' thegither" was played as last good-byes were being said, and the train was well out of the station before the skirling ceased.

A correspondent sends the following:—

An exciting chase took place, near the Jungle Bungalows, on the 24th instant. A fair sized pole-cat having chanced to stray near "D" Company's precincts was spotted by a few men who immediately gave chase to it. The pole-cat at once took to the trees, but nothing daunted a few of the men went up after it (some of them giving a few very good tips in tree-climbing), and after a very arduous hunt amongst the branches the pole-cat was at length forced to the ground, where some thirteen men and eight dogs (observe our correspondent's accuracy—Ed.) waited to receive it. Despite this it would, however, have got away had not our old friend and Tochi comrade "Jock," the little Irish terrier, appeared upon the scene. He was just in time to catch it as it was climbing another tree, and quickly put it *hors de combat*. One adventurous spirit, volunteered to keep the skin of the pole-cat, but the effluvia eventually proved too much for him, and the next morning the services of the *mehtar* were called into requisition.

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A Novel Entertainment at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

THE right half battalion is nothing if not original, and its latest entertaining departure, "A Grand Water Gala" to quote the heading of the programmes, was an unqualified success. From six to eight o'clock in the evening of Tuesday, 21st March, the large crowd packed into the swimming bath at Shahjehanpur was alternately deeply interested in some exciting race or aquatic feat, or highly amused at the comic element of the entertainment, for which an old favourite, Drummer Brisland, was mainly responsible, and for the two hours or so fun or excitement alternating the interest never once flagged. Long before the hour appointed for starting the bath was densely packed, so much so that it became almost a danger to move. A midnight race in which the competitors were attired in *robes des nuits*, though of somewhat scanty dimensions, and had to swim one length of the bath, pick up a lighted candle and return with it alight, commenced the programme. It is no easy matter to propel oneself through water under these conditions, and the winner himself had to return for a second candle before finally reaching the winning post. A blindfold race, which was if anything more funny, followed, and Captain Robinson and the officers arriving, just at its finish it was by special request repeated later in the programme. One hundred yards handicap followed this, which was won by Lance-Corporal Ure in 1 minute 10 seconds, Private Pollock who had conceded 10 seconds being only 1 second behind. An amusing sketch "Wha's next for shavin'" filled in an interval of some ten minutes, the barber Drummer Brisland and his boy Private Farquharson both in artistically designed costumes following their patients into the water as a

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finale. This was followed by graceful and object diving and plunging which brought us to the first heats, three in all, of the fifty yards' race. All the heats were exciting and were stubbornly contested. To give the winners time to get their wind for the final Private Pollock gave an exhibition of "All Styles" swimming, and proved himself an adept in all the many branches of the art. Then came the fifty yards final, and again, as breathing time before the start of the Mail Race, Private Dunn entertained us by undressing under water, then exhibition floating by Lance-Corporal Ure and Private Farquharson followed, and finally came Private Pollock's great sack trick. In this the exhibitor was securely tied in a sack and slipped into the water, he emerged, however, after some twenty seconds of breathless excitement, during which the drop of the proverbial pin might have been heard, quite free from any impediment. The Mail Race was a very exciting item and for the benefit of the uninitiated may be described. Companies were represented by a team of four, each individual of which in turn raced up and down the bath impeded by an open havresack slung over his shoulder; upon returning to the starting place the havresack was transferred by each swimmer to the next representative of his team until each quartette had finished. The best time from start to finish counted, but to add to the excitement and emulation two teams started together and raced throughout. "A" and "B" led off, the latter winning easily, though the time might have been much better had the last man not, having the race in his hands, taken it too easily. "C." and "D." teams were more evenly matched and they raced every inch of the water, "D" eventually having the advantage by the narrow margin of one second or about one length. At the conclusion of the Mail Race the bath was cleared for the polo match, and after a few minutes for arranging the goal posts the teams lined up. "C." and "D." yclept the Left-Right were perhaps the favourites, but both were fairly evenly matched. The Right-Right winning the toss elected to take the deep end and the game was started by the referee throwing the ball into the centre of the water. The match absolutely defies description, suffice it to say that after about four minutes play, during which time the audience were more or less in an advanced state of convulsions, the R.-Rs. managed to force a goal, any attempt against them having been repulsed by their own custodian, Private Carter, in the most approved first eleven manner. In changing over the L.-Rs, especially in the person of Private Pollock, made some most determined attacks, but were unable to equalise, and the R.-Rs'. goal remained invulnerable to the end. The concluding item was certainly the funniest of the many funny events on the programme, and would require a much more able pen than ours to do it justice. At the finish of the match the national anthem was played, and the clearance of the building was somewhat accelerated by the involuntary ducking suffered by several of the spectators. Altogether the entertainment must be considered the most distinct success that has been scored for many years, and the greatest praise is due to the few swimming men from whom the idea originated, added to the others who gave their services entirely voluntarily for the amusement of their comrades. The services of the Acting Sergeant-Major, Colour-Sergeant Swan, as Chairman were indispensable, whilst Sergeant Stonor as General Manager acquitted himself exceptionally, and he and his Committee under most trying circumstances may be congratulated upon the success of the entertainment. Thanks are also due to the Acting Adjutant, 2nd Lieutenant Herbert, who officiated as starter, judge and referee, and who must have got well wetted for his trouble. The Sergeants were, with their usual liberality, "At Home" during the entertainment, and the usual specific for "wet without" was pretty frequently prescribed during the evening.

The following were the results:—

MIDNIGHT RACE.

Private Hunter, "B" Company	1

BLINDFOLD RACE.

Private Carter, "B" Company	1

100 YARDS HANDICAP.

Lance-Corpl. Ure, "B" Company (10 seconds start)	1
Private Pollock, "D" Company (scratch)	2

GRACEFUL DIVING.

Private Robertson, "D" Company	1
„ Fyfe "A" „	2

OBJECT DIVING.

Private Aitken, "D" Company	1
„ Dunn "C" „	2

PLUNGING.

Private Pollock, "D" Company	1
„ Farquharson, "C" „	2

50 YARDS RACE (FIRST HEATS).

Private Fyfe, "A" Company	1
„ Campbell, "A" „	1
„ Aitken, "D" „	1

EXHIBITION "ALL STYLES" SWIMMING BY PRIVATE POLLOCK.

FINAL HEAT, 50 YARDS.

Private Campbell	1
„ Aitken	2

UNDER-WATER SACK TRICK BY PRIVATE POLLOCK

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MAIL RACE (FOUR MEN PER COMPANY).

"D" Company, time 2 minutes 27 seconds ... 1
Team—Privates Pollock, Brady, Collins and Aitken.

"C" Company, time 2 minutes 28 seconds ... 2
Team—Privates Farquharson, McBride, Anderson and Lance-Corporal Marklew.

"B" Company, time 2 minutes 30 seconds.
Team—Privates Carter, Henry, Hunter and Lance-Corporal Ure.

"A" Company, time 2 minutes 50 seconds.
Team—Privates Campbell, J. Allan, McMaster and Fyfe.

UNDRESSING UNDER WATER BY PRIVATE DUNN.

EXHIBITION FLOATING BY LCE.-CORPL. URE AND PRIVATE FARQUHARSON.

FIVE-A-SIDE WATER POLO MATCH—RIGHT-RIGHT *v.* LEFT-RIGHT.

Teams—RIGHT-RIGHT—Lance-Corporal Ure, Privates Hunter, Carter, Allan and Campbell.
LEFT-RIGHT—Privates Pollock, Robertson, Dunn, Anderson and McBride.

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Temperance at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF RECHABITES,

"Excelsior" Tent No. 190.

THE "Mother" Tent has gone to the hills, leaving behind a very strong Branch to carry on the work in the right wing at Shahjehanpur. It is to be hoped that the Branch, although at present in the minority, may through the efforts of the few hard-working Brothers, now comprising its membership, be, by the end of the summer, greatly in the majority.

The meetings of the Branch Tent are being fairly well attended since its arrival in this station, and the young members seem to take great interest in the work and progress of the Tent and Order.

It is pleasing to note how well the "Good Templars" are working with us, and by our united efforts it should be possible to create a great "Temperance" revival in Shahjehanpur. During the summer months we have great expectations of many good Sessions, which are sure to prove most beneficial.

It is this season of the year which presents so many temptations and often proves such a stumbling block to weaker Brethren, but the lessons which are being taught by the "Excelsior" Tent I. O. R., and the "Pride of Sutherland" Lodge I. O. G. T., will not, it is hoped, be in vain, but will strive to strengthen and encourage all who come under their precepts.

I. O. G. T.

Pride of Sutherland Lodge, No. 112.

I am pleased to be able to state that the above Lodge still continues to make good progress, several friends having joined us since arriving in Shahjehanpur, thus helping to fill up the places made vacant by the Brothers who recently left us for the hills.

It is pleasing to note that the cause of temperance is thus flourishing in the 93rd. Day by day we are realizing the great value of total abstinence, and that the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is the cause and strength of a very large proportion of the wickedness, crime, vice and misery which exists around us. Knowing this it is the bounden duty of all interested in the Temperance cause to band themselves together that they may hasten the hour when the means of intoxication shall be banished from our land. Therefore we at all times extend an earnest and cordial invitation to all friends of Temperance to join in large numbers the I. O. G. T. or I. O. R., and to strengthen the bonds already existing. I am also pleased to report very few violations, and that we are looking forward to spending some very pleasant evenings during the coming summer.

YOUR LODGE SCRIBE.

ARMY TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

The General Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Bateson, paid his annual visit to the Regimental Association at Shahjehanpur on the 10th, and after giving a most interesting address distributed the following honours:—

FIVE YEARS' MEDAL.

Private Savage, "A" Company.

THREE YEARS' MEDAL.

Corporal Ward, "A" Company.
Lance-Corporal Laird, "C" "
Private Coyle, "D" "

SIX MONTHS' STAR.

Private McLennan, "A" Company.
" Fraser, "A" "
" Jamieson, "A" "
" Young, "A" "
" Flynn, "A" "
" Morton, "A" "
" Forbes, "A" "
" Selley, "B" "
" J. Donnelly, "B" "
" McFarlane, "B" "
" F. Kerr, "B" "
Lance-Corporal Kelley, "C" "
Private Cassidy, "C" "
" Connell, "D" "
" Davie, "D" "

MOTTO RING.

Corporal Mahoney, "C" Company.

Previous to this there had been a "bun-fight" with an enormous casualty roll, and afterwards there was a concert in which several friends of the Royal West Kent Detachment figured conspicuously.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it can die content noo.

That it has seen the famous "Corkscrew" at last.

That it dis'na ken whit a' the blether wis aboot.

That the Liver Wing "negoshiated" (is that a' richt, Mr. Editor) it a' richt.

That the mairches wis awfu' easy.

That it wis a level road wi' an incline.

That it can see some gran' sport in the shape o' khud-climbin' in front o' it.

That there wis mair climbin' than khud-climbin' din on the mairch up.

That it would like tae use some vera strong language aboot thae insects up here.

That Rs. 50 is an awful expenditure for the Regimental Team.

That they got twa slices and a cup oot o' it.

That "F" Company is awfu prood 'o thae badges.

That the clock is din.

What its cousin at Shahjehanpur says:—

That the Richt Haulf is a' richt.

That the simmer promises tae be a graun' anc.

That it has hed a graun' summin' entertainment.

That the Harlequinade wis if onything the best o' it.

That it wis awfu' near gettin' a dookin' itsel.

That it wants tae ken what's gaein' tae buy the beer."

That it's beginin' tae faancy itsel' at Cricket.

That it's no het at a' as yet.

———:o:———

Head-quarter Football.

—o—

THERE have already been several matches at Chaubattia, and men may be seen at all times engaged in the exhilarating pastime of "shooting for goal."

The following matches have to be chronicled:—

OFFICERS *v.* SERGEANTS.—A win for the non-commissioned officers by 2 goals to 1.

ARMY TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION *v.* THE DRAFTS.—Resulted in a win for the "Teetotalers" by 2 goals to *nil*.

OFFICERS, 59TH, *v.* OFFICERS, 93RD.—With but half a battalion to select from and many of the best players on the "plains," the result was a foregone conclusion.—Scores 59th, 2 goals; 93rd, 0.

"E" and "F" *v.* "G" and "H" COMPANIES.—A good match won by the latter combination by one goal to *nil*.

The March of the Head-quarter Wing to Chaubattia.

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THE head-quarter wing paraded at 8-45 A.M. on the 3rd March for the annual migration to the hills. Bareilly cantonment station was reached about 9-30 A.M., but it was about 10-30 A.M. before the "Advance" sounded and the train moved off. The journey by train to Kathgodam was uneventful, but as the hills were neared the scenery proved attractive enough to those who had never done the journey before, and heads were continually seen popping in and out of the carriage windows.

On arrival at Kathgodam, about 2 P.M., the advance party under Lieutenant A. H. Maclean and 2nd Lieutenant Neumann was ready to unload all the baggage which had come by troop train; all the heavy baggage that had come on the night before having already been disposed of. No time was therefore lost in marching off the wing from the station, and we were not long in doing the two miles to Ranibagh rest-camp. All the baggage except the blankets having already arrived, the troops were not long in settling down into camp life again. Reveillé sounded at 6 A.M., the following morning, and considering that there were so many of the last two drafts amongst us who had never seen a camel loaded before, the business of packing up went very smoothly. By 7-30 A.M. everything had been sent off, breakfasts taken and the wing was on the line of march again. The baggage went by the cart-road, but the troops marched by the short cut along the bridle-path to Naini Tal. Several parts of this bridle-path are now very steep, some of the new portions having been cut out, owing to parts of the old road having either fallen in or become dangerous. This march although only a short one proved to be fairly stiffish, and no one was very sorry when the Brewery rest-camp opened to view. Nearly all the baggage arrived soon after the troops, so no time was lost in changing into trews, getting a brush up and strolling out to have a look at the land-slip by the Brewery. There appears to be little change in the scene of last November when the other wing marched down. The march the following day was to Bhowalie rest-camp, commonly known as the "Tea Gardens." We were scarcely out of camp when the band suddenly stopped playing, and it was discovered that the half-way house, or rather what was designated by that title, though quarter-way house would have been much nearer the mark, had been reached. However, the march altogether was not a very long one, and we arrived in camp at a very early hour

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During the afternoon some of the troops, fired by tales of how some of "B" Company's *khud*-climbers on the march up last year had scaled one of the high hills overlooking the camp, and anxious to emulate their deeds, commenced to ascend the hill. The first man who tackled the climb was dressed in white, which made it easy to follow his movements, and as nearly all the troops in camp had turned out to watch him there was keen speculation as to how long it would take to do it. The man in white, who carried a towel with him—in place of a pocket handkerchief it is presumed—turned round several times and waved it gracefully in the air, and the cheering response which this met with from the multitude assembled beneath, must have fired a few more daring spirits, for several minutes later quite a band of budding *khud*-climbers appeared in view, fighting their way desperately to see how soon they could reach the top of the hill. The ascent of the hill was perhaps not up to "B" Company's time, but the descent must have broken the record; as by this time it was nearly sundown and the *khud*-climbers suddenly remembered there was only a limited supply of liquid refreshment at the canteen.

Our march next day was all downhill to Rattigat, which was also a very short march. This rest-camp is a very small one, and all the spare corners seemed to be utilised for pitching tents on. The following day's march was to Bamshaon and led past Khairna dâk bungalow and Bujjan rest-camp, the latter place being our half-way house. Bamshaon is rather a curious, though no doubt a pretty rest-camp, the camping-ground sloping down in terraces from the road. It proved to be rather a bad place for camels, the path on to the cart-road being very steep. However we managed to get all the "*oonts*" off the following morning, as usual, there being no mishaps, though a few loads occasionally appeared to get into rather dangerous proximity to the *khud*. This being our last day's march the battalion started a little earlier than before, and was not long in getting to the half-way house which was at the foot of the "Corkscrew" path leading up to Chaubattia. After a short rest for refreshments at this place we tackled the famous climb and arrived at the top all right in less than an hour's time, without having had one man fall out. We were not long in reaching barracks after arriving at the top of the hill, although no work could be done for some considerable time afterwards, owing to the baggage not having been equally expeditious. The corkscrew path being much too steep for camels, all the baggage had to go round by the cart-road from Ranikhet, and this caused the delay. A few hours sufficed to draw commissariat stores, &c., and issue them to companies, and by quite an early hour in the afternoon we were settling down to commence our summer on the hills. A look round Chaubattia in the evening repaid one for all the trouble and worry of shifting one's kit: the whole place appeared to wear its most smiling appearance, rhododendrons peeped out all round the hill and gave the place a charming blend of colour. As to Chaubattia barracks they rather appeal to one's fancy, being something after the style of an old country village at home, as the bungalows run somewhat irregularly along a road about half a mile long on top of the hill. "H" Company are in the bungalows "A" Company occupied last year; "G" Company have "B's"; "F" Company "C's," and "E" Company "D's." "G" Company bungalows are much the handiest, being beside all the institutes and also at quite a respectable distance from the guard-room and orderly room, a series of benefits which are much appreciated by "G" Company itself.

Here we are at Chaubattia then, and no doubt before many weeks are over we shall be able to hum to ourselves the old refrain about our hearts being light and our feet sore, for, by the appearance of the country around Chaubattia, the station was evidently not selected with a view to saving shoe-leather, but rather to encourage the "Walkphar" and soap industries. However "a stoot hairt tae a stey brae" will probably overcome the evil, the only thing being whether there may not be too many stey braes' for the "stoot hairt." But the "Liver Wing" has accomplished many difficult things in the past, and it is certain to accomplish the same again—and more.

A. L.

OVERHEARD ON THE MARCH UP TO CHAUBATTIA.

One of the last "breeze" imparting a wonderful bit of news to a chum—

How Wull I wis aye wunnerin' hoo thae camel besties wis able tae slip alang the road withoot makin' ony noise, and d'ye ken hoo it is—They dinna wear shoon (shoes).

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The Late Colonel Nightingale.

—o—

It was with much regret that we announced the death, in our February number, of Colonel Nightingale, who formerly commanded the Battalion, and more recently our Regimental District.

Born in 1837 he was not an old man when he died, though he had served 33 years in the regiment when he gave up the command in 1887. Colonel Nightingale received his first Commission as Ensign in the 93rd on the 10th November 1854, was promoted Lieutenant, 5th March 1855, and Captain 23rd November 1860. Obtained the brevet rank of Major, 14th December 1873, promoted Major in the regiment, 16th February 1878. When the territorial system was adopted on 1st July 1881 he was promoted to be second Lieutenant-Colonel. Promoted to command the Battalion on 1st January 1884, *vice* Colonel Macpherson; he retired on half pay on 1st July 1887, subsequently for five years commanding the 91st Regimental District.

The earlier years of his service were passed on active service, his record showing Crimean Campaign, Indian Mutiny, siege of Sebastopol, relief of Lucknow, defeat of the Gwalior Contingent at Cawnpore, pursuit to Serai Ghat, and Affair at the Bridge of Kaleenuddee, second Eusofzai Campaign, Umbeyla, for which he received the Crimean Medal with clasp "Sebastopol," Turkish Medal, Indian Mutiny Medal, with clasp "Relief of Lucknow" and the Indian Medal of 1854, with clasp "Umbeyla." All of Colonel Nightingale's service was passed at regimental duty except from May 1877 to September 1878, when he was commandant of the Musketry Camp at the Curragh.

Early in 1858 he lost his right arm above the wrist from an accident while out shooting, caused by the careleseness of a native who was carrying his gun. In spite of this, however he was an excellent shot to the end of his life, and a keen sportsman in every way. In company with Mr. Greig of the 93rd he even made expeditions to Kashmir and made large bags of ibex, ovis-ammon, and other Himalayan game. Only those who have seen the country in which these animals live can appreciate the extraordinary difficulty which a man with only one hand must have found in stalking on those precipitous hills. As a target shot he was among the best of his day in India. In his latter years he was devoted to curling and to golf which he continued to play till within a few months of his death.

The loss of his arm, in fact, to quote his old friend and comrade Greig, "roused his spirit and made him determined to do with one hand all that other men did with two." No man ever loved his regiment with such entire devotion as Colonel Nightingale loved the 93rd. To the last day of his life his interest never slackened, and every 93rd man was to him a comrade,—almost a brother. In Stirling,—where he had settled down on relinquishing the command of the Regimental District he was revered by all classes. It was generally said that there was no one in the town or country whose death would have caused such universal grief. No one knew the extent of his charity except the numerous recipients of it.

There are few now left who served with him in the battalion, but there must be many who were under him at the depôt, so let those who know him keep his memory green, for

> He was a man take him for all in all,
> I shall not look upon his like again.

—:o:—

Practical Old Numbers.

—o—

The old question of the substitution of names for numbers in the nomenclature of the Infantry units of our regular army is, says a contemporary, likely again to be revived—this time with the added experiences of the Soudan campaign fresh in men's memories to supplement those of the North-west frontier and other campaigns since 1881. On this question a correspondent writes from Egypt:—

"If those who advocate names for numbers has served as we have just done in face of an enemy, they would cease to argue in favour of our present ridiculous arrangement in confusion. So miserably bad is our so-called system that steps had to be taken to unsystematize it before we could go forward seriously into battle, and an officer who served in the Indian frontier expedition says it was the same there. The substitution of badges for numbers may be all well and good from the standpoint of the theoretical army reformer, but it is absolutely impossible so far as the requirements of the battlefield are concerned, producing as it does the direct confusion everywhere, which in the heat of an engagement might be disastrous. Let the badges be retained by all means for the swagger dress, accompanied by the numbers; but for the purposes of active service we must have numbers, and no amount of silly argument on the part of inexperienced theorists can get over the fact."

We could quote numerous instance where there has been a fine mixing up of the Lancaster, Leicester, and Leinster regiments, owing to the great similarity of nomenclature. It is not every one that is able to write in the "best copper plate," and if mistakes can so easily be made in the piping times of peace, it requires no very great stretch of the imagination to realise how grave and dangerous errors might be made in the transmission of telegraphic and other messages in time of war, more especially in the field, when most men's nerves are in a high state of tension. The long territorial names now borne by regulars, militia and volunteers alike, have greatly added to the clerical labour in all offices.

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Sport at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

CRICKET.

A Wing Team *v.* Muhammadan C. C.—Played at Shahjehanpur on the 25th February, when the Wing were victorious by 40 runs and six wickets.—Scores: M. C. C. 105. Wing Team, Private Atherton, 25; Corporal Mahoney not out, 22; Private Russell, 25; Hope, 19; Gilletly 19; Logan not out, 22—Extras 13. Total (for 4 wickets) 145.

Another match under the same title was played on the 2nd March, when the Wing were again the winners.—Scores: M. C. C. 130. Wing Team (2nd Lieutenant Kennedy 88, 2nd Lieutenant Coaker 19)—142.

Again another match on the 10th, when the "Natives" were at last rewarded for their perseverance.—Scores: M. C. C. 108. Wing Team (2nd Lieutenant Coaker 44, Sergeant Daniel 25)—101.

Detachment Royal West Kent Regiment *v.* "B" Company—Played on the 14th, "B" winning by 40 runs.—Scores: R. W. K. Regiment 46, "B" Company (Private Atherton, 28, Carter, 12, J. McIntyre, 10)—86.

"B" Company *v.* "C" Company.—Played on the 15th and 17th, when after two innings "B" had the advantage by 16 runs.—Scores—"C" Company (McBride 12, Farquharson, 11)—76 and 34. "B" Company (Stevenson, 21, Hunter 13, Logan 10)—87 and (A. Stewart 16, Stevenson 13)—45.

"A" Company *v.* "C" Company.—Played on the 30th, the latter team winning by three runs, though 2nd Lieutenant Kennedy and Sergeant Beavis tried their best for their side, and made over 100 runs during their partnership.—Scores: "C" Company (French 52, Dott 22, Lawrence 16)—153. "A" Company (Sergeant Beavis 55, 2nd Lieutenant Kennedy 46)—150.

HOCKEY.

Royal West Kent Detachment *v.* "B" Company.

On the day after the Wing's arrival "B" Company challenged the Kents to a friendly game of Hockey. "B" who had their full team with the exception of Stevenson, lost the toss and faced a strong wind and the sun. In the first five minutes the "B" scored twice, however, J. McGillivray and Logan being responsible, and before half time two more goals were registered. On re-starting the game was still one-sided, the match eventually ending with the scores: "B" Company 8 goals; R. W. Kent *nil*. A second match was played a few days afterwards when the Kents having greatly improved were only defeated by 7 goals to 3.

Death.

Mitchell.—At Shahjehanpur on the 12th March Alexander, the infant son of Color-Sergeant R. Mitchell.

The "Gaff."

—o—

The following is the programme of the entertainment given at the theatre here on the 29th ultimo :—

March.	London.	Band.
Song	Love's old sweet song	Private Cairns.
„ (*Encore*)	Monarch of the woods	„ „
„ (*Comic*)...	More work for the undertaker.	„ Taylor.
(*Encore*)	I've worked 8 hours this day.	„ „
„ (*Trio*) ...	Saw my leg off ...	Dr. Maj. Walsh. Sergt. Matthew, Lce.-Cpl. Clarke.
Song	Mary of Argyle ...	Private Eite.
Bassoon Solo ...	Lucy Long	Dr, Maj. Walsh.
Song	Massacre of the Macpherson.	Sergt. Matthew.
„	Highland Soldier's dream.	Lce.-Cpl. Clarke.
„ (*Encore*)	Sweet Rosie O'Grady	„ „
	Interval of 10 Minutes.	
Waltz	... ...	Band.
Song	Dotty on the Ditties	Capt. Darroch.
Song (*Encore*)...	Gou'fin' ... ... „	„
Highland Reel	...	Cpl. Ogg., Pte. Anderson, Pte. Ewan, Pte. Collins.
Song	Off to Philadelphia ...	Private Ritchie.
„ (*Encore*)...	An Irish Song ... „	„
Piccolo Polka ...	... ...	Lce.-Cpl. Willcocks.
Song (*Comic*)...	Latest London Medley	Pt. Melville.
„	There'll come a time	„ Wands.
„	When other lips ...	„ Davidson,
„ (*Comic*) ..	Parody on the ship I love	„ Taylor.
Polka (*Cornet Duet.*)	The Two Postillions	Ptes. Lillywhite and McLauchlan.

God Save the Queen.

—:o:—

Promotions.

To be Corporal.—No. 3344, Lance-Corporal A. Lawrie, "F" Company, dated 21st February 1899.

Pay of Rank.

Lance-Corporals.—No. 5049, Lance-Corporal J. Rafferty, "A" Company, dated 21st February 1899; No. 5697, Lance-Corporal P. McDonald, "G" Company, dated 21st March 1899.

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Appointments.

To be Pioneer.—No. 5073, Private G. Morrison, "G" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 3378, Piper F. Lynch, "F" Company.

Employment.

To be Librarian.—Lance-Sergeant P. Matthew, "E" Company.

To be School Assistant.—No. 5560, Lance-Corporal J. Laird, "C" Company.

Extension and Re-engagement.

To complete 12 years.—No. 4526, Corporal W. Watt, "D" Company.

To complete 21 years' Service.—No. 2808, Sergeant J. Soutar, "F" Company.

Transport Certificates.

The undermentioned have been granted certificates, dated 16th March 1899—

No. 3692,	Sergeant W. G. Stonor,	"B"	Company.
,, 3596,	Corporal A. Rankin,	"A"	,,
,, 4301,	,, J. Gilbert,	"H"	,,
,, 5484,	Lance-Corpl. G. Ure,	"B"	,,
,, 5501,	,, J. Houston,	"D"	,,
,, 5827,	,, J. Clarke,	"F"	,,
,, 5853,	Private J. Brown,	"G"	,,
,, 5293,	,, D. W. Macbean,	"C"	,,

Good Conduct Pay.

Granted 2d. per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 4712, Private J. Brown.

"B" Company.

,, 4136, Private W. Thomas.

"C" Company.

,, 4704, Private J. Smith.

Granted 1d. per diem :—

"D" Company.

No. 6078, Pte. T. Peacock. | No. 6089, Pte. D. Deans.

"E" Company.

No. 6051, Pte. G. Douglas, | No. 6082, Pte. W. Wallace.

"F" Company.

,, 6088, Lce.-Cpl. R. Milne, | No. 6072, Pte. R. Jamieson.

"H" Company.

No. 6063, Lce.-Cpl. H. Munro.

Restored 1d. per diem :—

"B" Company.

No. 3488, Pte. D. Ferguson.

"F" Company.

No. 5300, Pte. J. Wands.

"G" Company.

No. 5515, Pte. J. Maslin.

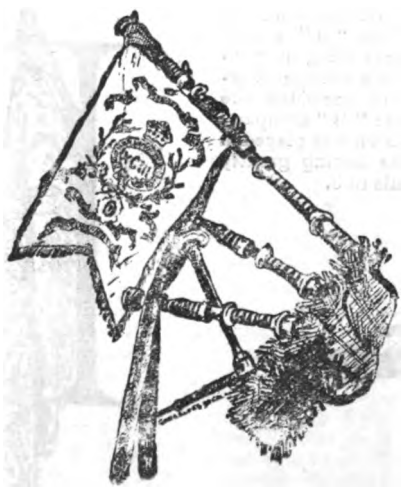
"H" Company.

No. 5378, ,, C. Campbell. | No. 4754, Pt. W. Hawthorn.

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

Granted 2nd Class Certificates.

No. 5163,	Lce.-Corpl. J. Allan,	"D"	Company.
,, 5182,	,, T. Morrison,	"D"	,,
,, 5499,	,, D. Gordon,	"B"	,,
,, 5062,	,, J. Soutar,	"C"	,,
,, 4531,	Private C. Armour,	"A"	,,
,, 5953,	,, W. McMillan,	"A"	,,
,, 5194,	,, H. Brown,	"D"	,,



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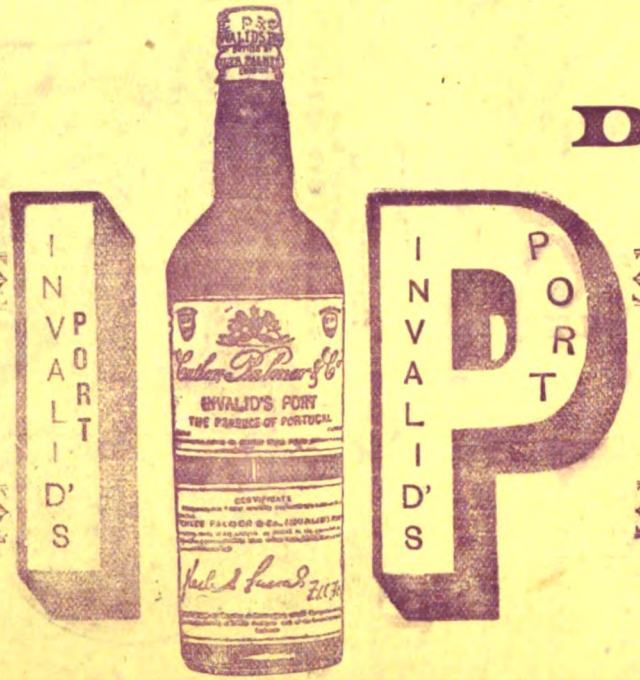

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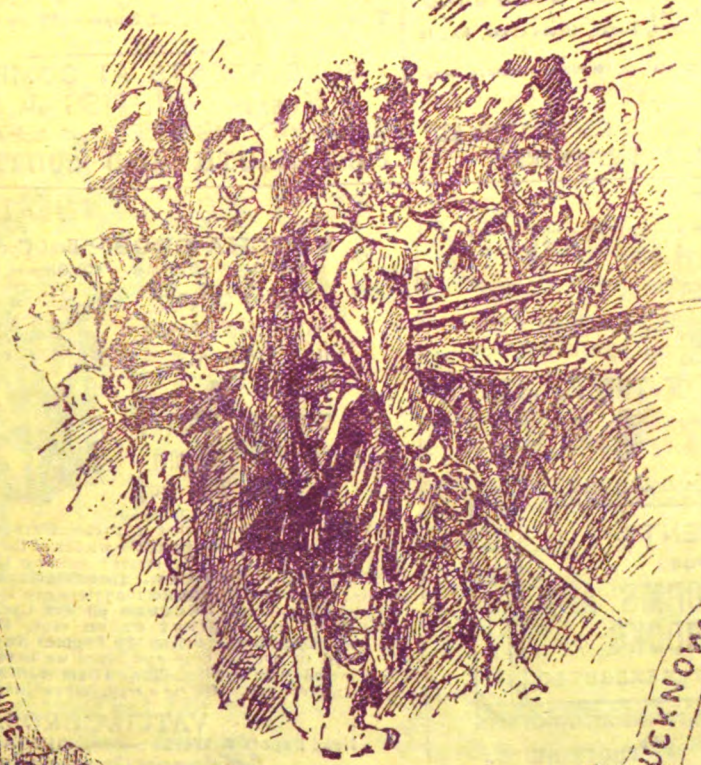

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 1[illegible]—Vol. V. HEAD-QUARTERS CHAUBATTIA,—MAY 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

IT may be mentioned that Chaubattia is suffering from an awful attack of "weather." The cold and the wet and the wind have laid many a good man and true low. For a time it had been abnormally hot, then came storms of wind and dust. The temperature suddenly lowered, and thunder and lightning and hail in profusion were then the order, followed by a heavy fall of rain. The sudden and big change was productive of much fever, and many colds and throat troubles. As may be supposed the military training companies, "G" and "H," are not having what may truthfully be called a joyous time.

Published on another page is the programme of our second concert held on the 12th ultimo. On the whole, it was not quite so successful as the first venture. There were, however, half a dozen exceptionally good items. Captain Darroch, whose name appears on the programme, was unable to be present, to the great disappointment of the audience. In his place Mrs. Goff very kindly played a pianoforte selection (Scotch airs) in a style highly appreciated by all lovers of good music present. She was enthusiastically applauded. Private Cairns who has sung himself into everybody's favour was in good form on this occasion. Lance-Corporal Clark—another of our best singers—appeared to be suffering from a cold, but, nevertheless, did well as usual. Of Drummer Burns we never tire; if the remainder of our so-called comics were half as genuinely humorous, what tremendous successes our concerts would be! In "Drinking" the Drum Major had an opportunity of proving the extensive compass of his powerful bass. Of the other items of the programme, the "Club Swinging," "French salute with loose play" and the "Highland Fling" were the most interesting.

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Though a little marred towards the end by a specimen of the before mentioned "weather" Chanbattia has been suffering from of late the Sergeants' Picnic on the 13th ultimo was a very jolly affair The scene of the outing was a lovely spot some two miles down the road to Almora, beyond the Officers' Mess. A badminton tournament, shooting competition, dancing, and (for the ladies) a "Dandy" race and an "Egg and Spoon" race were a few of the items which made up the day's programme. The catering for and amusement of the party were most successfully attended to by Sergeant Soutar, and the hard-working Committee who assisted him. Everybody, whom duty did not claim for its own, was present, and, despite the rain at its close, all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. A few members of the band gave appropriate selections at intervals, and also provided the music for the dancers, thus contributing materially to the success of the outing.

* * * * *

Some good football ought to be seen up here before the end of the season. There are, it is said, plenty of representatives of the King's Own Scottish Borderers, Cameronians and 3rd Hussars' teams, in the Standing Camp contingent. These and the East Lancashire representatives ought to furnish our regimental team with good material to beat.

* * * * *

There are rumours current of a revival of the pleasant Sergeants' Mess concerts which were so much appreciated last year.

* * * * *

Through the kindness of Mr. John Mackay, the Editor of the *Celtic Monthly*, we have been able to obtain the addresses of several Reading Rooms and "Welcomes" in our old recruiting grounds Caithness and Sutherland, which we have much pleasure in adding to our "free list."

"Here's a chance to bring into the grand old regiment some real Sutherlanders," writes Mr. Mackay to us. "A copy to each of these places would soon familiarise the lads with the regiment, and might inspire some to join. They have in Sutherland the finest Volunteer regiment in the world, the finest physique and stature, and have taken first place and nearly every prize this year in musketry competitions. So there you have grand material to work on, full of martial spirit. I always enjoy the *Thin Red Line*, and I hope the *Celtic* is read in the regiment."

Mr. Mackay himself being a Highlander from Sutherland may account for the interest he apparently has in the 93rd, still we are deeply indebted to him for the trouble he has taken to assist us in our attempt to popularising the regiment in a district, the land of its origin, but which, owing to the official suppression of sentiment and the miscalled territorial system, has been transferred to the recruiting district of another corps.

* * * * *

Relative to Mr. Mackay's mention above of the excellent shooting record of our Sutherland Volunteers we have received the following from an unfortunately unknown Rogart correspondent:—

It must be a matter of satisfaction to Highlanders all over the world that in shooting competitions open and competed for by the Volunteers of Great Britain that the Sutherland Battalion of Volunteers have been successful in carrying off all the prizes. That battalion has come first in the "Best 20 Sections" competition, and Rogart Company "D" has taken two of the first prizes and Lairg "F" the only other first prize. The presentation of the cups won by the Rogart Company took place on Friday, the 17th March, and a really Highland day it was with galore of Highland Whiskey."

Our correspondent has disguised himself under the *nom de plume* of "Oein," and we sincerely hope this may not be the last interesting communication from him. Any news from the land of our origin and its gallant volunteers is especially acceptable. Na Gaidheil Anguaillibh a Cheile.

* * * * *

As the month of merry May is becoming a nearer possibility there is a great improvement

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in the weather of the last three weeks. Chaubattia smiles once more, and is at her very best.

* * * * *

A correspondent writes:—"There are gay doings at the Sergeants' Badminton Courts every evening. Enjoyment—genuine and unadulterated being the key-note. Comparisons are, proverbially nasty things to make, but progress anywhere and in anything good deserve to be noted, and truth compels a great improvement on last year's gatherings to be chronicled. Then the games were confined to a few ardent spirits who frequently found a difficulty in making up a "set," and our fair friends were sadly conspicuous by their scarcity! This year all are turning out with praiseworthy regularity, the ladies well to the fore and, it need hardly be said, their presence amongst us lends an additional interest to the play and a keener edge to our enjoyment. Long may the present fine weather continue and the dreaded monsoon delay its approach.

Our first practice dance, held in the gymnasium, was an unqualified success, and augurs well for the future fortnightly "hops."

* * * * *

Lieutenant B. A. Harvey is away home on six months' leave. He was not in the best of health leaving, never having thoroughly recovered from his pig-sticking accident, so it is to be hoped the change may prove beneficial to him.

* * * * *

Rumour has been busy of late discussing impending building changes of momentous character in Chaubattia. It has apparently been decided to add to Chaubattia's importance by sufficiently increasing the number of bungalows so as to provide accommodation for a whole instead of half battalion. Though the change is not likely to be effected for some time—certainly not in our time—it may be interesting to readers of the *Thin Red Line* to know what the changes are likely to be.

A committee to decide upon the sites for the proposed new bungalows and to suggest alterations in the existing ones met on the 20th April, and the result of their deliberations was, it is believed, pretty much as follows:—

(*a*) The new bungalows to be two-storeyed.

(*b*) One bungalow to be built on a site between the Sergeant-Major's bungalow and the canteen, where the beer godown and dairy are at present located; another below the M. W. D. Overseer's quarters on the spur of the hill round which the path leading down to the Fitzwygrum barracks runs.

(*c*) Institutes to be erected to the left of the butts between the Drummers' bungalow and the butts.

(*d*) Present canteen to be converted into an orderly room, &c.

(*e*) Present institutes to be converted into a company bungalow.

The great difficulty in the way is not so much the difficulty of obtaining sites as the deficiency of good building stone.

The building of the Colonel's new bungalow proceeds apace. It will probably be completed in a couple of months—before the rains set in.

* * * *

Previous to the assembling of the above-mentioned committees General Sir George Luck, Commanding the Forces, Bengal, and an old 93rd officer in the person of General Gaselee, Quarter-master-General in India, paid a visit to Chaubattia in connection with the selection of the sites.

* * * * *

In addition to the proposals mentioned above there is also a probability of the range being turned round with the butts somewhere in the vicinity of "One Tree Hill."

* * * *

"G" and "H" Companies, who commenced their field training on the 21st March last, finished on the 19th April. The Brigadier-General commanding the Rohilcand District was to have inspected the companies on this date and an elaborate scheme of operations was drawn up; "H" Company represented the rear guard of a force retiring on the standing camp, whilst "G" impersonated a small force detached from Chaubattia to harass their retirement. "H" Com-

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pany made a counter-attack, but it was scarcely successful, though they managed to cut off one of "G's" piquets. Colonel Goff in the absence of General Meiklejohn officiated as inspecting officer. Dinners were cooking while the operations were in progress, and on the "cease fire" sounding the troops marched to where the dinners had been prepared, and after dining "al fresco" returned to barracks.

* * * *

"E" and "F" are now rushing through their field training before the bad weather can come on and disturb them. These two companies have been struck off since the 22nd ultimo.

"H" Company commenced their annual course of musketry on the preceding day.

* * * *

"E" Company were the first of the left half battalion to test the range here, and the result, owing, no doubt, to the exceptionally bad weather, has hardly been as auspicious as might be expected. Sergeant Tyndall is "company shot," but there are only seven marksmen in all.

* * * *

At Shahjehanpur both "D" and "B" Companies have completed their annual course with an improvement upon last year's average.

Sergeant Johnstone is "Company Shot" of the former, in which there are thirteen marksmen; whilst Private Henry is the best shot of "B" Company's nineteen marksmen, and thus secures the "Star."

"D" has an average of $\frac{84}{40}$, whilst "B" have run up to $\frac{90}{50}$.

* * * *

We take the following from a Scottish paper. With the death of this old soldier (a sketch of whose life was published in our last October No.) must surely pass away the oldest connecting link of the regiment with the past, for there can be very few old 93rd Highlanders living who took the "King's shilling" as far back as 1827.

DEATH OF AN OLD SOLDIER—The death occurred on Tuesday at Leith of Mr. William M'Gregor who up to the time of his demise enjoyed the distinction of being one of the oldest of Her Majesty's old soldiers, having shouldered the musket and worn the uniform of three British monarchs. Mr. M'Gregor, who, it may be stated, was the father of Mr. Walter M'Gregor, Superintendent of Dundee Public Baths, was in some respects a remarkable man. He was born at Leslie, Fifeshire, in 1809, and when a young lad he accompanied his father to Dundee. For some years the family resided in Dempster's Land, Scouringburn, and when 18 years of age (in 1827) young M'Gregor enlisted in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, and shortly thereafter was drafted to the West Indies. Here he served for a number of years, till orders came for recall. Home service was his portion for a time, and in 1836—two years before Her Majesty came to the throne—he retired with the rank of colour-sergeant. For 10 years, as a member of the Leslie detachment of volunteers, he wore Queen Victoria's uniform as in his younger days he had worn that of King George and King William. Then he removed to Leith, and despite his years he joined the Mid-Lothian Rifle Volunteers, of which corps he was for 12 years a member.

* * * *

Summer in the hills having commenced, reveille now sounds at 5-30 A.M. and retreat at 6 P.M.

* * * *

Captain Vallancey, Lieutenant Campbell, Color-Sergeant Smith and Sergeant Arnott left on the 22nd to join the new class forming at the School of Musketry, Pachmarhi. Sergeant Hay also went from Shahjehanpur.

* * * *

As last year there are weekly "at Homes" at the Officers' Mess, when the *elite* of Ranikhet join with Chaubattia. So far, despite the average uncertainty of the weather, every Tuesday afternoon has been exceptionally fine.

* * * *

There was a small "at Home" in the Sergeants' Tennis and Badminton Courts on Thursday, 27th, though a goodly number of the usual frequenters were absent attending the baptismal rites of one of the latest additions to the ranks of Young Scotland.

* * * *

Speaking at a meeting in Peebles on the advantages of the army, the Revd. Hugh Drennan, who was our Regimental Chaplain for many years, and served through the Mutiny and Umbeyla campaigns with the regiment, said he was always glad to be able to bear testimony to the advantages of military service. He had served with soldiers for more than thirty-seven years, and therefore he ought to know a good deal about it. He had marched with them over two thousand miles, been with them in sickness and health, and stood by them in many a

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battle-field, and he had to say that he had always had the very greatest esteem and respect for the British soldier. (Applause.) Some of his best friends to-day were men whom he had known during his whole service. Some had been privates and some sergeants, but they had all been noble and true men. Regarding the dislike of parents to their sons entering the army, he might tell them that it was a very common thing for soldiers to send their own children into the service. He knew old soldiers some of whom had three and four sons in the army. They did not send their sons in ignorance, and they had told him they were perfectly satisfied with the way their sons had got on. About getting on in the service, he knew one man who enlisted when a little barefooted boy in Aberdeen, a great many years ago. He knew him for at least twenty-five years of his life. That boy enlisted into the 93rd; he became a sergeant, and afterwards an officer, and lived to command the regiment. (Applause.) Another little boy in Aberdeen neighbourhood enlisted very much at the same time, and he eventually became a Colonel in the army, and retired and lived a very long and useful life afterwards, much respected by everybody There was another man he could tell them of—a very peculiar case. He was a piper, and when he first knew him he was a drunken, dirty, useless soldier. But he mended his ways. After a while one of the Maharajas in India, a wealthy man, came to see the 93rd, and was so pleased with the pipers that he begged Government to allow him a piper. When Government gave their consent he (Mr. Drennan) recommended the piper of whom he had been speaking, and he agreed to go. He was immediately made a Colonel in the Maharaja's army, and when riding on to parade the colours were lowered to him. He lived with the Maharaja for a great many years, and retired on a large pension, and was living a few years ago in great luxury. He did not say every one who joined the army would become Colonel, but he did say every man who would keep from the drink had the best opportunity of leading a useful and happy life, and of getting on well in the world. Now-a-days the soldier in some branches of the army had to be a well educated man—in the Artillery or Engineers for instance. He had known some sergeants who could talk French and German and some other language, perhaps Gaelic, fluently, and were men of wide information, who would not be out of place in any society. He was sure no young man entering on life who had a turn for the army and for seeing the world could do better than join the army. He might say for himself that had he his life to begin over again, and with all his experience, there was nothing he would like better than to go and spend his days with the soldiers. (Applause.)

* * * * *

Those who have only seen Chaubattia gymnasium in its every-day appearance would not have recognised it on the 14th April when Mrs. Goff gave a dance in it. A large verandah composed of tent flies had been erected in front, two or three tents had been pitched for sitting out and refreshment rooms, and a covered way made into the skittle alley which was used as a supper room and decorated to such an extent that but little of the building could be seen, and no one could possibly have guessed what it originally was. Nearly every lady in the station was present, and most of the men, and a very enjoyable dance was the result.

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Lieutenant Johnston-Stewart has been appointed to the British Central African Regiment, and will be seconded from date of embarkation to join.

* * * * *

Captain Bell has been installed as Worshipful Master of Lodge Fidelity at Ranikhet. The number of Freemasons in the regiment which had been declining since we left Mian Mir is now slowly increasing again. Captain Robinson, Lieutenants McCandlish and Harvey have recently been initiated and Sergeant-

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Drummer Walsh probably will be by the time this is in print.

* * * * *

Three more officers of the Unattached List have joined for a year, making a total of eight, so it is evident we must have secured a reputation in the instruction of youth. One of them is a brother of Lieutenant Villiers-Stewart, 5th Gurkhas, who was attached to us at Dalhousie and Nowshera and who, we regret to hear, has a permanent shortening of some inches of one leg—the result of the very severe wound he received in 1897, on the Samana.

* * * * *

There are rumours afloat of much imitation warfare in the near future. Field days, field firing, hill manœuvres and a campaign all the way from Chaubattia to Bareilly in November, but nothing has yet transpired officially.

* * * * *

Lieutenant Cox has been recommended for the depôt next trooping season, *vice* Lieutenant Tweedie.

* * * * *

There seems to be a wave of matrimony sweeping over the officers of the 1st Battalion. We almost wrote engulfing, but that perhaps would not be polite. Captain Campbell is married. Captain Gore went to see the ceremony and got engaged to one of the bridesmaids within a week, and we hear Captain Richardson, who only left us three years ago, is also to be married shortly.

* * * * *

It is expected that Major Paterson will be appointed 2nd-in-Command of the Battalion in June. Major Wilson, it is believed, prefers to remain at home, though we should all be glad to see him out here again.

* * * * *

A Board of Officers presided over by the Brigadier-General Commanding has selected sites for barracks for the accommodation of a whole battalion at Chaubattia, but it is not expected that work will be begun until after next hot weather at any rate. According to the scheme submitted to Government we believe new barracks will be built on the spur running from the hospital to the butts. Existing buildings will have another storey added to them, new institutes are to be built, the offices will all be together near the present tent store, and "H" Company's bungalow occupied last year by "A" are to be converted into married quarters. Several more officers' quarters are also to be built and the Officers' and Sergeants messes enlarged.

* * * * *

Major Campbell has gone on a fortnight's leave to Simla.

* * * * *

We are sorry to hear that Major Aitken's leg is not mending as quickly as it ought to. When last heard from, from Srinagar, he was still unable to walk, and his leg was in plaster of Paris.

* * * * *

Captain Sutherland has applied for eight months' leave to England.

* * * * *

Our signallers, it appears, have passed a much more successful examination than was expected. Despite the fact that the majority were very young hands, a considerable number never having previously been examined, the total number of marks awarded by the inspecting officer has been 1,049·30. This is nearly double that required to qualify, and considering the disadvantage under which they have lately laboured the signallers may be said to have acquitted themselves very well indeed.

THE RULING PASSION.

1*st* SENTRY—Number one and all's well!
2*nd* SENTRY—Number two and all's well!!
3*rd* SENTRY—Number three and let 'em ALL come!!!

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Being Notes of the Right Wing at Shahjehanpur.

THE summer has at last commenced; it is going well over a hundred in the shade, and the pendulous *punkha* is a necessity. The early part of the month was remarkably cool for the season of the year, north winds predominating, and although the *punkhas* commenced swinging on the 19th of the month they were only really required during the few hottest hours of the day. Latterly, however, the winds have been southerly, and there has been an appreciable daily increase in the temperature. Still, however, with what we *have* experienced Shahjehanpur cannot be called unduly warm, the mornings and evenings are comparatively cool, and there are always refreshing breezes.

As is always the case with an increase of the temperature it is becoming a difficulty to find anything to write about. These notes cannot but help reflecting the monotony of the season, and the late month has been productive of nothing in particular. During it "B" Company finished their military training and "C" commenced; the former company also completed Table "B" of their annual Musketry Course, their average for individual practices being just 90; "D" Company had previously completed their firing, and now "A" have commenced, and have staked their reputation, as the "Shield-holders," upon the result. The ranges here are, however, very uncertain, there is not unusually a very indifferent light in the morning, and the winds become very conflicting and troublesome as the distances lengthen. "A" Company have however a reputation, and no doubt it will be maintained.

On the 12th there was a Rifle Match on the range between the officers of the wing and a team of sergeants. There being only six officers present, each side was restricted to this number, and to equalise matters somewhat the non-commissioned team was selected by drawing from a hat. Firing took place during the latter part of the afternoon and the sergeants won by thirteen points, despite the fact that the officers had taken the precaution to be "At Home" on the range during the shooting.

The scores, which were not phenomenal, a high wind blowing during the firing, were as follows:—

SCORES.

Officers.	200 yds.	500 yds.	Totals.
2nd Lieutenant Thomson ...	22	18	40
Captain Cameron	18	20	38
Lieutenant Marshall	18	21	39
2nd Lieutenant Herbert ...	20	18	38
Captain Robinson	9	17	26
2nd Lieutenant Kennedy ...	7	14	21
Totals ...	94	103	197
Sergeants.			
Sergeant Hay	23	25	48
Color-Sergeant Mitchell ...	21	18	39
" " Chaplin ...	11	23	34
Sergeant Durnan	16	16	32
" Gillespie	13	18	31
" Olden	14	12	26
Totals ...	98	112	210

This, except for a few cricket matches, has been the only sporting event during the month, the majority of the time having been too busily engaged with the sterner realities. With three of the four companies alternately struck off for musketry or military training, duty has necessarily been pretty severe, especially upon the non-commissioned officers, but another month or so should see all the companies through their various courses of training, and a very easy time as a reward for past labours.

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During last month twenty men returned from Bareilly where they had been going through instruction in big gun drill. A few men have been invalided to the hills, but these have been the only changes and the wing still roughly numbers four hundred "rifles" as we used to say in Tochi. An entertainment in the shape of an open-air concert has been spoken about, but is not yet a reality, though it is time something of the kind was arranged to help to pass the monotony of the "long, long summer" evenings.

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Temperance at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

Excelsior Tent No. 190.

THE Branch Tent at Shahjehanpur is still making rapid progress, both in numbers and in real temperance work. It has been advancing, with rapid strides, during the past month. The offices of the Branch have been ably filled by staunch, hardworking members, and as the remainder of the Brothers are assisting and supporting them, their united efforts are sure to meet with the success which they call for. On the 6th instant the Branch Tent held a "Social" in their room at the Mutty Barracks which turned out a great success. The speeches were well delivered by Brothers Devlin, Donelly, Montgomery and Brown, during the evening, and proved very instructive, whilst the songs—some of them very amusing—were well rendered. We must indeed thank the Brothers, who took part in the programme, each and all having shown admirable readiness to contribute towards the evening's enjoyment. A very pleasant evening was brought to a close at 10 P.M.

YOUR TENT CORRESPONDENT.

The Army Temperance Association.

During the past month the executive of the above association instituted a series of card competitions which were brought to a successful conclusion on the 20th April.

In the Bezique competition there were seventeen entries, the following being the result of the more advanced rounds:—

THIRD ROUND.

Drummer J. Brown, "C" Co., beat Pte. McPherson "A" Co.
Pte. Jamieson, "A" „ „ „ Devlin, "D" „
„ Forbes, "A" „ a bye.

SEMI-FINAL ROUND.

Pte. Jamieson, beat Pte. Forbes.
Drummer Brown, a bye

FINAL ROUND.

Pte. Jamieson, beat Drummer Brown.

Cribbage claimed sixteen devotees, a most convenient number, and the following were the results of semi and final rounds.

SEMI-FINAL ROUND.

Pte. J. Brown, "B" Co., beat Lce.-Corpl. Houston, "D" Co.
„ McDonald, "B" „ „ Drummer Brown, "C" „

FINAL ROUND.

Pte. Brown, beat Pte. McDonald.

For Whist there were six pairs entered with the following final:—

FINAL ROUND.

Pte. Hastie, "A" Co., and Pte. Smith, "D" Co.,
beat
Pte. Hope, "B" Co., and Pte. McMahon, "C" Co.,

The classic game of "Chirby" also claimed six pairs for the first round, the result of the final being:—

Pte. Easton, "D" Co, and Pte. Searfe, "A" Co.,
beat
„ Clements, "C" Co., and Pte. McPherson, "A" Co.

Don was the last of the games, and the result after preliminary rounds was:—

FINAL ROUND.

Ptes. Hastie and Forbes, "A" Company,
beat
„ Easton and Smith, "D" Company.

Private Thomas, "B" Company, assisted by Privates Coyle and Tawse, "D" Company, arranged the tournament, and was responsible for its success. It is proposed to hold similar competitions at frequent intervals in the Temperance Room—a most excellent way of spending an evening and adding to the popularity of the temperance cause.

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Head-Quarter Football.

—o—

OFFICERS 59TH AND 93RD *V.* OFFICERS UNATTACHED LIST.

A MATCH as above was played at Ranikhet on Friday, 21st April, and we have to thank a correspondent for the following account:—

The "Unattached" kicked-off at 4-30 p. m., and play for a time was of a loose and uneventful character, very little combined play being shown by either team. Eventually after a series of short rushes by the forwards of both sides, the "Unattached" got well away, and ought to have scored, but for a poor shot at goal.

After this the Combined Regiments showed better form, and pressed the "Unattached" goal rather hotly. They were only kept from scoring by the good defence of the backs. Play became again very uneventful, consisting of a series of long kicks between the opposing, half-backs, but about 20 minutes after the start the forwards of the Combined Regiments again got away, and this time scored a good goal. Nothing further of interest, and half-time was called, the scores then being—

Regiments	...	...	...	1 goal.
Unattached	...	...	...	0 „

When play was resumed the "Unattached" showed to much better advantage, and almost throughout the whole of the half were continually pressing their opponents' goal. Shortly after the re-start they scored a goal, thus equalising the scores. After the kick-off they quickly brought the ball back to their opponents' territory, and though the half-backs relieved occasionally, yet the 59th and 93rd were constantly in danger, there being a large

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number of corner kicks. Time after time the "Unattached" ought to have scored, but their passing was faulty and their shooting very poor; also the defence was good. Thus when time was called nothing further was scored, and the game ended in a draw of one goal all. Neither side showed much combination, but this was hardly to be expected.

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Cricket at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

"B" COMPANY *v.* "C" COMPANY.—Played on the 4th April, the former company being victorious by 51 runs Score—"B" Company (Private Atherton not out 46) 91. "C" Company 40.

"A" COMPANY *v.* "B" COMPANY.—Played on the next day, 5th April, "B" being again the winners. Score "A" Company 34, "B" Company (Private Atherton not out 52) 97.

"B" Company v. *Remainder of Wing.*

THE most exciting match of the season so far was one commenced on Saturday, 30th ultimo, between "B" Company, who had an unbeaten record, and a team selected from the remainder of the wing. "B" batting first were disposed of for 83 runs, 2nd Lieutenant Herbert contributing 31 of these. Upon the wing team going in 27 runs were scored for the loss of four wickets, Sergeant Daniel getting 17, when stumps had to be drawn for the day. Continuing their innings on the following Tuesday the wing were unfortunate enough to lose 2nd Lieutenant Kennedy, who was one of the "not-outs" from Saturday evening, before he had added to his score, he being very smartly held by Atherton as third man about five minutes after re-starting. Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean looked like being dangerous for a time, but was disposed of by the same fieldsman from a hard drive to the "on" after making 18. The remainder of the wing team did little, and Stevenson levelled the stumps of the last man with the score at 60. "B" thus won by 23 runs, though towards the end they got somewhat wild in their fielding, and gave several runs away. For the winners Stevenson and Russell bowled throughout, dividing the honours equally between them.

SCORES.

"B" Company.

Lieutenant Herbert, c Forbes, b Gibson	...	31
Sergeant Stonor, c Forbes, b Mahoney	...	12
Private Mossman, b Mahoney	...	0
„ Atherton, c Maclean, b Gibson	...	0
„ Stevenson, b Mahoney	...	5
Russell, b Mahoney	...	12
„ Hunter, b Daniels	...	1
„ Carter, c Kennedy b Mahoney	...	12
„ Henry, run out	...	0
„ Logan, not out	...	0
„ Thomas, c Forbes b Daniels	...	0
Byes	...	10
Total	...	83

THE WING.

Corporal Mahoney "C," b Stevenson	...	2
Sergeant Beavis "A," b Russell	...	0
„ Daniel "D," b Stevenson	...	17
Private Gibson "C," b Russell	...	1
Lieutenant Kennedy, c Atherton, b Russell	...	7
Private Campbell "A," Retired	...	0
„ Harper "C," b Russell	...	0
Lieutenant Maclean, c Atherton, b Stevenson	...	18
Private Forbes "A," b Russell	...	0
„ French "C," run out	...	9
„ Dott "C," not out	...	5
„ Blackwood "C," b Stevenson	...	1
Byes	...	0
Total	...	60

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The Second "Gaff."

—:o:—

The following is the programme of the concert held in the Chaubattia Theatre on 12th April:—

PART I.

1. *Song* ... "Kathleen." Sergeant MATTHEW.
2. *Song* ... "Tom Bowling." Private CAIRNS.
3. *Song* ... "Pathetic Ballad." Private RITCHIE.
4. *Sword V. Bayonet* ... Privates FOX and DYER.
5. *Cornet Duet* ... Bandsmen LILLYWHITE and MCLAUGHLIN.
6. *Song* ... "Rowdy Dowdy Boys." Private TAYLOR.
7. *Song* ... "Sentimental." Lance-Corporal CLARKE.
8. *Highland Fling* ... Private ANDERSON.
9. *Song* ... "When other lips." Private DAVIDSON.
10. *Pianoforte* Solo ... "Scotch Airs." Mrs. GOFF.

PART II.

1. *Song* ... "Laddie that cam' tae woo me." Drummer BURNS.
2. *Song* ... "More work for the undertaker." Private TAYLOR.
3. *Club Swinging* ... Sergeant REID.
4. *Song* ... "Down by the old Abbey Ruin." Private CAIRNS.
5. *Song* ... "Drinking." Drum-Major WALSH.
6. *French salute with loose play* ... Sergeant REID and Lance-Corporal LYNCH.
7. *Song* ... "Sentimental." Private DAVIDSON.
8. *Song* ... "Sentimental." Lance-Corporal CLARKE.
9. *Clarionet Solo* ... Corporal HALL.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

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How Hodson Died.

—o—

There have lately been many discussions by the press of this country as to how "Hodson, of Hodson's Horse" met with his death, and the character of that gallant soldier has at last apparently been vindicated. This having been mainly brought about by the testimony of eye-witnesses, who were soldiers of the 93rd Highlanders, the following interesting correspondence, culled from the pages of the *Indian Morning Post*, may not be out of place in the pages of the *Thin Red Line*:—

"Chelsea Pensioner" writes to the *Times of India*:—In your leader on "Hodson, of Hodson's Horse," there appears a statement which mars the life history of a gallant soldier. In your leader it is an open question about Hodson losing his life at Lucknow whilst "looting." Permit me, therefore, to say that if it is possible to have history correct the doubtful point at issue ought now to be cleared up for once and all. Hodson was not killed whilst "looting;" he was killed by a sepoy on entering Lucknow gates fighting like a Britisher only can fight, and the sepoy who killed him was immediately run through with the bayonet by the late Alexander Rule, formerly of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, and late General Timekeeper, B. B and C. I. Railway. This I heard from Mr. Rule's own lips, and he said if there was a doubt about this matter Forbes Mitchell had recorded this incident in his book "The Great Mutiny," where Mr. Rule's name will be seen by anyone looking for it. Forbes Mitchell was then a Sergeant in the same distinguished Corps, and was close to Rule when the sepoy who killed Hodson was bayonetted. Mr. Rule has many a time told me of this incident, especially when there have been any articles written on the Mutiny and Hodson's name has been mentioned. This I hope will clear Hodson's name from the stigma that writers may attach to it, and do justice to the man whom Lawrence placed such implicit faith in. The following editorial note is appended to the letter:—"We certainly never treated it as an 'open question' whether Hodson was killed whilst looting. We showed clearly that the charge could not have been true."

C. writes:—The enclosed, taken from "Hodson, of Hodson's Horse," by George H. Hodson, M. A., Vicar of Enfield, 1889, must clear up all doubts as to whether Major Hodson was shot dead while in the act of looting, whilst Lord Napier of Magdala, as late as 1883, wrote as follows of the brave Christian soldier, who fell fighting at the Begum's Palace:—"I am now, as I have always been, fully convinced of his honour and integrity." "I was so near to Hodson when he was killed that my hand was almost on his shoulder, and I positively assert that to say he was looting is an unmitigated slander. His death happened as follows:—Between 2 and 3 o'clock p. m. on March 11th, 1858, Colonel Napier, now Lord Napier, of Magdala, reported the breach of the Begum's Palace practicable. My regiment, the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, was ordered to storm it, and the fighting was without doubt the sternest struggle of the siege of Lucknow. After the palace was carried many of the enemy took shelter in the dark-arched buildings, which surrounded the court of the palace, and had to be dislodged by throwing in bags of powder with lighted fuses attached to them. By this time the stormers were broken up, and engaged in a series of such fights all over the palace, and Lieutenant and Adjutant William MacBean, of the 93rd, late Major-General MacBean, got the V. C., for cutting down eleven men escaping out of one of these places. I was at another angle with some sixteen men, several of whom were shot down from a dark room which we tried to enter, for the glare of the afternoon sun was so strong we could not see the position of the enemy when looking into the dark. I made four or five men take post at each side of the door, and sent two back to the breach to bring up a few bags of powder from the engineers, who were preparing and attaching the fuses, to dislodge the enemy from this room. The men sent by me went in search of Colonel Napier, and found Hodson, who was never behind when fighting was to be done, and I believe he had accompanied Napier as his assistant in storming the Begum's Palace. Hodson did not wait for the powder bags, but came running up with his drawn sword, and called to me to show him where the rebels were. I pointed to the doorway, and he was about to rush in when I called out, 'Don't: It's certain death; wait for the powder.' He took a step forward; and I put out my hand to seize hold of his shoulder to pull him out of the line of the doorway, when he fell, shot through the chest with two or three bullets. He ejaculated something either, 'Oh, my wife!' or 'Oh, my mother!' I really could not say which; but, being shot through both lungs, he was immediately choked with blood. I assisted to lift him into one of the dhoolies that had by that time commenced to collect the wounded, and sent him to where the surgeons were at work. By this time some bags of powder were brought up, and we dislodged the men who were in the room, and bayonetted them

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down without mercy—some eighteen or twenty men. That Hodson was killed through his own rashness I admit, but that he was looting I would deny, even if every authority of the British army were to say so. No looting had then commenced, not even by Jung Bahadur's Gurkhas."

—: o :—

Touch me Gin ye Daur that!

—o—

Air—A man's a man for a' that.

Frae yont the brine, in fifty-nine,
A rumour cam' an' a' that;
A fierce game cock, o' Gallic stock,
Fu' cruisely craw'd an' a' that.

He fluff'd his feathers i' the wind,
An' threaten'd war an' a' that;
But on the strand a thistle grew,
Said touch me gin ye daur that.

For a' that, an' a' that,
Joost tak ye tent an' a' that;
The thistles bloom will jag yer thoomb,
Sae touch it gin ye daur that.

The wheels o' time ran round an' round,
Some four decades an' a' that;
When aince again the cockie bird,
Fu' lustily did craw that

He'd creep in by a wee back door,
Nor stop to rap nor a' that;
Pick barley corns frae off the floor,
To fill his crop an' a' that.

For a' that, an' a' that,
He'd feed, an' roost, or waur that;
But Cecil's lord, and Balfour bauld,
Said touch it gin ye daur that.

We hae a lion meek an' mild,
Until he's rous'd an' a' that;
But pu' his beard, or twist his tail
He'll gi'e an ugly claw that.

We hae a thistle now grown strang,
In stem an' beard an' a' that;
When planted at our barn door,
It's touch it gin ye daur that.

For a' that, an' a' that,
'Twill stand for age, an' a' that;
Fit emblem o' our mither-land,
Joost touch it gin ye daur that.

We dinna a' boast, we dinna sneer,
We dinna brag nor a' that;
Yet still we'll stand, ye need na fear,
For hame defence an' a' that.

"But let us pray that come it may,
As come it will for a' that;"
When enmity or jealousy,
Will buried be an' a' that.

For a' that, an' a' that,
"It's coming yet for a' that;"
When sounds o' war frae near or far,
Will ne'er be heard nor a' that.

W. GORDON HEPBURN.

In the London Scottish Regimental Gazette.

One Way of putting It.

—o—

It is more than thirty years since records of service were first introduced by the authorities out here. There is a page with printed headings on which you state when you were born, and where, dates of commission and promotion, &c.; there is a page on which to state all the appointments you have ever held, and the stations you have been quartered in, &c. There is another page for all the examinations you have ever passed or will ever pass; and another on which you enter the campaigns and battles you have been engaged in, and the medals and rewards you have received for them, and so forth. In fact the thing is quite a little book, with a full but succinct record of all such particulars as may be useful to yourself during your career, or to your relatives in the event of your death.

Well, these books were served out for the first time somewhere about the year 1861, and in a certain regiment officers were directed to fill them up with the necessary details and send them into the orderly-room. There was a dear old doctor in this corps, a great favourite with every body, and possessed of a quaint humour. He filled up his papers like the rest, and sent them in, and these were among the astounding entries which the astonished eyes of his colonel read when he received them. Under the heading of "Campaigns, battles, medals, rewards, &c.," was "Run away at Sobraon: Medal; Run away again at Chillianwallah: Medal and clasp."

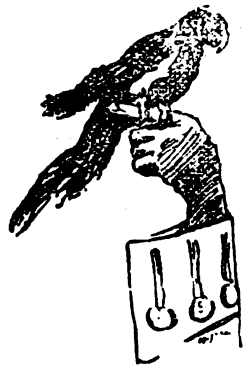
And he stuck to it too. The commanding officer remonstrated with him in vain. "Very sorry, sir," he said, "I cannot alter those entries, they are quite true. I ran away at Sobraon, and by Gad, we all ran at Chillianwallah! I remember I was attending to a patient in a dhooly when the—th Regiment rode over me as they hurried to the rear. Never saw my patient again." The old chap put it very funnily, but there certainly was not much for us to boast about at Chillianwallah, though it is recorded as one of our victories.

COUP D'ŒIL.

—: o :—

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—



[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

WHAT its cousin at Shahjehanpur says:—

That "B" Company apparently ken a' aboot ornithology.

That they ha'e rechristened the "Brain Fever" bird.

That it is noo ca'd the "Flat Order" bird.

That the same company hae been doin' some guid shootin'.

That a trainer is maist useful' o' times.

That the "Maxim" section were no sae vera successful'.

That "A" are gaein' tae keep up their reputation or die in the attempt.

That it's maist convenient tae live in sic a close proximity tae the magazine.

That the bungalow orderlies o' the ither companies wis only warned.

That nae sentries wis mounted over the ammunition boxes.

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That there is a deciple o "the friend of man" in the Wing Sairgent's Mess.

That some vera queer folk hae been seen on duty in the Gaird Hoose.

That signallin' is gey bad for the een.—

That its hill cousin maun be a noddin' ag'in.

———:o:———

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Corporals.—No. 5230, Lance-Corporal D. Yardley, "H" Company, dated 12th April; No. 4567, Lance-Corporal Inglis, "G" Company, dated 14th April; No. 5081, Lance-Corporal R. Kelley, "C" Company, dated 21st April.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Sergeant.—No. 3775, Corporal G. Forbes, "F" Company, and taken on paid establishment.

To be Lance-Corporal.—No. 4295, Prov. Lance-Corporal A. Keeble, dated 12th April.

To be Drummer.—No. 5585, Private T. Brown, "C" Company; No. 6535, Boy T. Cridland, "F" Company; No. 5690, Private P. Brisland, "C" Company.

To be Pay Sergeant.—No. 2735, Sergeant J. Tyndall, "E" Company.

To be Acting School Master to Wing.—No. 3610, Sergeant J. Stobbie, "D" Company.

To be Acting Drummer.—No. 6338, Private W. Balfour, "E" Company.

PAID ESTABLISHMENTS.

Of Lance-Corporals.—No. 4058, Lance-Corporal J. Buchanan, "F" Company, dated 12th April; No. 3548, Lance-Corporal C. Greenland, "A" Company, dated 14th April; No. 5688, Lance-Corporal F. Roche, "A" Company, dated 21st April.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2*d.* per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 4534, Private C. Smith.

"B" Company.

No. 4751, Private J. Atherton.

"C" Company.

No. 4366, Pte. A. Graham. | No. 4719, Pte. J. Lawrence.

"D" Company.

No. 4698, Private J. McIntyre.

"E" Company.

No. 4765, Pte. J. Patterson. | No. 4738, Pte. W. Speedie.
No. 3870, Pte. J. Brown.

"G" Company.

No. 4743, Pte. R. Hill. | No. 4737, Pte. T. Adams.
No. 4753, Pte. E. McAulay.

Granted 1*d.* per diem :—

"A" Company.

No. 6098, Pte. J. Young. | No. 6105, Pte. J. McArthur.

"B" Company.

No. 5484, Lce.-Cpl. G. Ure. | No. 4751, Pte. T. Blythe.
„ 5429, Pte. J. Campbell. | „ 5745, „ T. Burns.

"C" Company.

No. 5753, Pte. C. Gibson.

"D" Company.

No. 6057, Pte. P. Wilkie.

"G" Company.

No. 5851, Pte. J. Roberts. | No. 6027, Pte. McKendrick.
No. 5868, Pte. J. Gilmour.

"H" Company.

No. 6104, Pte. W. Wilson. | No. 6124, Pte. R. Silcock.

Restored 1*d.* *per diem* :—

"A" Company.

No. 5745, Pte. McAlpine.

"B" Company.

No. 4663, Pte. W. Glass.

"C" Company.

No. 5354, Pte. F. Higgins.

CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION.

The undermentioned were on the 17th March awarded 2nd Class Certificates of Education :—

No. 4773, Lance-Corporal A. Wilson, "A" Company.
„ 5049, „ „ J. Rafferty, "A" „
„ 3293, Corporal H. Williams, "B" „
„ 4311, Lance-Corporal A. Wight, "C" „
„ 5081, „ „ R. Kelley, "C" „
„ 5763, „ „ R. Allison, "C" „
„ 5587, „ „ W. Johnston, "D" „
„ 6167, Private N. Simpson, "D" „

INTER-COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 5230, Corporal D. Yardley, "H" to "E" Company.

UNATTACHED LIST.

No. 4945, Lance-Corporal R. Wright, "C" Company, promoted Sergeant, Unattached List, dated 8th November 1896. Auth. No. $\frac{1010}{C}$ Simla, 6th April 1899.

MUSICAL CERTIFICATES.

No. 2809, Lance-Corporal T. Lyons, "E" Company, has passed a satisfactory examination in elementary forms of musical theory and instrumentation.

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete 12 years' service :—

No. 5585, Private T. Brown, "C" Company.
„ 5690, „ P. Brisland, "C" „

BIRTH.

SCOTT.—At Chaubattia on the 26th March 1899, the wife of Sergeant W. Scott of a son—Hector Charles.

DEATHS.

GEMMELL.—At the Station Hospital, Bareilly, on the 30th March 1899, No. 5706, Pte. D. Gemmell, "E" Company.

ROCHE.—At the Station Hospital, Shahjehanpur, on the 30th April 1899, No. 5688, Lance-Corporal F. Roche "A" Company.

———:o:———

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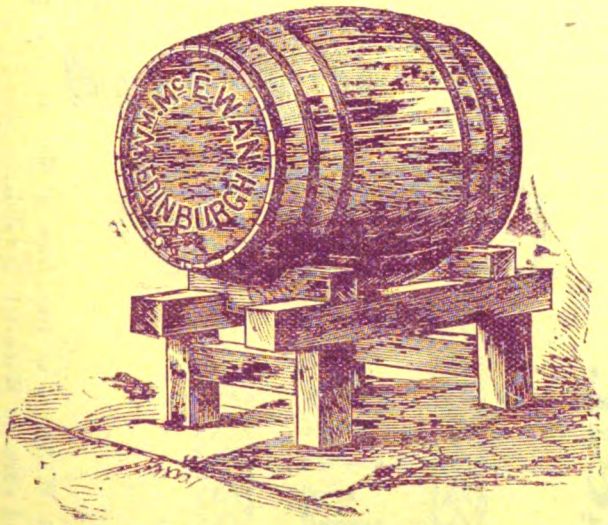

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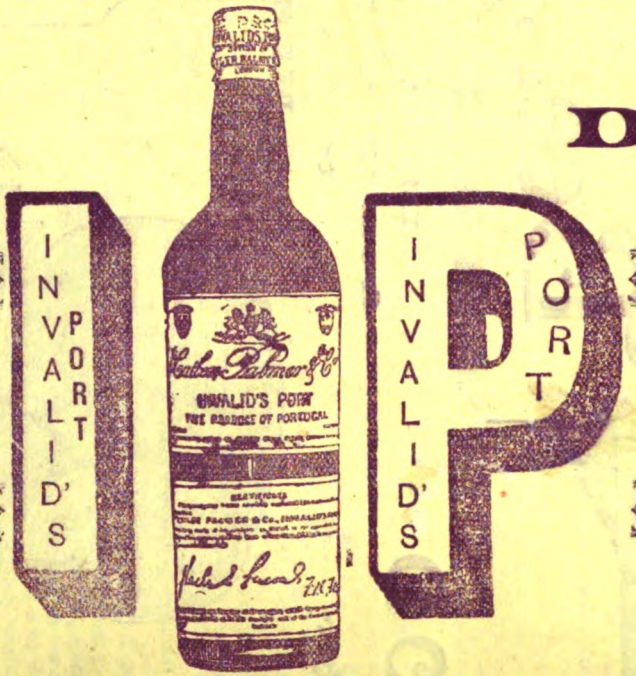

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LAHORE: Printed and Published for the Proprietors by the "Civil and Military Gazette" Press.

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June 1899

June 1899
Vol V

The Thin Red Line

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 2—Vol. V. HEAD-QUARTERS CHAUBATTIA,—JUNE 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE climate of Chaubattia during the month of May has been a great improvement upon last month's "samples." During the first week or so, the station was subjected, in addition to mosquitoes and dust, to what at home would have been designated a "heat wave," when summer clothing, white on Sunday, was immediately taken into wear; Chaubattia then rose to the dignity of an earthquake, a slight shock being experienced one night, and this was followed by heavy thunderstorms and torrents of rain, since when the dust, which was becoming somewhat of a nuisance, has been less troublesome, and the weather has really repaid one for the trouble of tramping up hill some fifty odd miles or so.

There was an exciting football match—the first since the final at Bareilly—between those great league rivals "F" and "G," on the 10th ultimo, which drew a large number of spectators. The usual post of vantage, the *khud* side, was lined with partisans of both teams, who, in turn, applauded their own side and criticised, without superfluous ceremony, the weak points of the other.

There was some excellent play on both sides, and the match was certainly the best seen up here this season, though spoilt occasionally by the same hesitancy in shooting which has marred so many of our otherwise good matches. The game resulted in another win for "F," by one goal to nothing.

* * * * *

When are we going to play the East Lancashires again or a team from the standing camp? So far there has been a lot of talk, but nothing else; surely before the rains come on there ought to be discovered some one with sufficient enterprise and confidence to arrange a series of good games. Such a series would be a boon and a blessing to us all just now, for we sadly want enlivening.

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Thursday, the 11th, was the date of the Sergeants' second picnic. The scene on this occasion was an appropriate spot, some few hundred yards down the *khud* side, below the small Hindu temple familiarly known amongst us as "Julia Davies." The day was an ideal one, and it goes without saying that all enjoyed themselves immensely. Messrs. Lawrie's representative was present with his camera; as yet no one has seen the result, but the picnicers ought to have made, and doubtlessly did make, a most effective and pretty picture.

* * * * *

We are sorry to have to record an accident to the commanding officer—a nasty throw from his horse, which occurred just outside the orderly room. It was feared at first that the accident might prove serious, but, fortunately, beyond a severe shaking no worse consequences have resulted, and Lieutenant-Colonel Goff is again at duty.

* * * * *

Since our last number a few more particulars about the proposed building changes at Chaubattia have been gleaned.

Most of the new bungalows for the men will run in a line from the present commanding officer's quarters beyond the hospital towards the butts. On this spur also will be situated the Institutes.

The Hospital will be enlarged, and a new guard-room built between the Sergeants' Mess and the Gymmasium, part of the hillside to be cut away to make room for it.

Two bungalows for the men—to accommodate a company—to be built along the road running round the back of the Sergeant-Major's quarters. An additional warrant officer's quarters to be built in a line with and beyond the present quarter. Present canteen to become Quartermaster's Stores and Pay Office, and not as mentioned in last month's news. Orderly room to be just beyond the school on the road leading to Officers' Mess.

Foundations of the new Church to be re-laid. We may qualify all this interesting information, however, by mentioning that a start will probably be made with the said changes in about five years! The Government of India don't allow the grass to become unduly long under their pedal extremities, we can assure you.

* * * * *

"Putting all jokes aside," as our Irish comedians say, head-quarters have not allowed an undue accumulation of the succulent shoot to produce itself at Chaubattia this season. Although the merry month of May has but newly departed, three out of the four companies, the band and a party of casuals have already completed their annual musketry course. "F" Company have started, and the annual batch of recruits, now being initiated into the mysteries of "poking drill," spiral groves and trajectories will be ready to apply their lately imbibed theories to a practical test as soon as this last company has finished.

* * * * *

In addition all four companies have now finished their field training, "E" and "F's" final inspection taking place on the 20th ultimo. The following was the scheme of the day's proceedings:—

"F" Company, detached from Standing Camp to attack Chaubattia, will act as a rear-guard, retiring towards Standing Camp, having been beaten back.

"E" Company will act as a Company detached from Chaubattia to drive off "F" Company, with orders to go as far as the 2nd Water Post, and throw out outposts.

"F" Company will fall back as long as pressed, when they will halt, and, if not attacked in 45 minutes, will reconnoitre and make a counter-attack.

Operations to commence at 8-45 A.M. on the 20th inst.

"F" Company to rendezvous on main road below west of Hospital.

"E" Company in front of their own lines.

Practice to includes—

Cooking dinners.	Signalling.
Loading Mules.	Judging Distance.
Supply of Ammunition.	Trenches.

Sangars.

The examination was somewhat curtailed by the weather, a heavy fall of rain coming on about half-past one, which brought the operations to a finish somewhat earlier than was arranged.

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"G," who were the second company to test Chaubattia ranges, have been somewhat more successful than their predecessors, their average running up to $\frac{84}{43}$. Corporal Poole is best shot, his score being 129.

"H" Company's figure of merit is $\frac{84}{44}$, with Sergeant Clarke as best shot. His score was 133. The Band's figure of merit is somewhat higher than the above, reaching $\frac{89}{44}$, with Private Burns' score of 130 leading.

At Shahjehanpur the companies of the wing have also concluded their annual course. "A" company have kept up their reputation to the tune of 94. Color-Sergeant Mitchell leads with 132, and there are twenty-four marksmen. "C" Company had very indifferent weather in which to fire, only came out with an average of $\frac{77}{45}$, and have but seven marksmen. Sergeant Ewan, with a score of 136, is "company shot."

* * * * *

There was a shooting match on the range here on the 6th of last month between teams selected from "F" and "G" Companies; the distances were the usual 200 and 500 yards, and "F" were victorious by fifty-five points. The scores were:—

"F" Company.

Sergeant Soutar	63
Colour-Sergeant Ditcham	55
Bandsman Miller	52
Lance-Sergeant Reid	49
Corporal Laurie	47
Lance-Sergeant Forbes	47
Private McNee	46
Lance-Corporal Buchanan	42
Private Morrison	37
„ Wainwright	31
Total ...	469

"G" Company.

Private Mckinnon	51
„ Adams	50
Drummer Gifford	48
Corporal Inglis	47
Sergeant Lockie	44
Private Stirrat	44
Bandsman Green	43
„ Lillywhite	36
Private Gilmour	27
Corporal Adcock	24
Total ...	414

In addition to their picnic the Sergeants had dances in the Gymnasium on the evenings of the 3rd, 18th and 31st ultimo. All were extremely well patronised, the last one especially so.

* * * * *

Carrying the great-coat folded instead of rolled may considerably reduce the time required in which to prepare for marching order: the coat is perhaps less likely to be destroyed by the new method of carrying it, and it can be removed more easily: otherwise there is little improvement in the new marching order regulation. It is doubtful whether anything will be gained by transferring the weight of the coat from the hips to the shoulders, and the mess-tin was certainly more comfortably carried, resting as it did in the natural hollow of the back, by the old method. Our own experience of carrying the "canteen" of the waist belt is that it presses somewhat uncomfortably against the bottom of the spine, and this, we think, would be the unanimous opinion of all those who wore the mess-tin continually in the Tochi.

* * * * *

We are becoming less ceremonious yearly. It certainly seems only reasonable, however, that the compliment paid to a general officer, or even perhaps a member of the Royal family, when passing in review, should be quite sufficient also for the usual two men and a (drummer) boy of a guard, or an armed party of perhaps similar strength.

That the necessity of "shouldering" to an armed party or guard should have lasted so long after the same salute was deemed superfluous when passing in review may be perhaps classed as one of the many vagaries of the red book.

Regimentally the new and simple method of paying a compliment on the march may be considered in the light of a blessing, as we could never be accused, by even our greatest flatterers, of really excelling in this particular. Personally, however, we consider this gradual interment of ceremonial as a step in the wrong direction. Military smartness and precision, the admiration of our childhood, seemed almost as inseparable from

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the stiffening of the "fingers of the disengaged hand" and the "long shoulders," as perhaps the periwig and stock did to the minds of our forebears.

* * * * *

On another page will be found a letter, addressed to the Commanding Officer by the Secretary of "Her Majesty's Army and Navy Veterans, Canada," which, we hope, will be carefully perused by all readers of the *Thin Red Line*. It may be mentioned that the Ninety-third were in Canada from 1838 to 1848, first going to Toronto (though only for a few days) in October of the first-mentioned year. They were permanently quartered in Toronto from November 1838 to 1840, and again from 1841 to 1844, so the statement of the gallant old veteran, Sergeant Peter Sheppard, that at least fifty of the regiment lie buried there, is not an over-estimate considering the rough work the 93rd were called upon to do during the first year of their sojourn in Canada: quelling the 1838 insurrection.

That the regiment should be well represented in the subscription roll is only the just due of former generations of the 93rd. The value of the dollar referred to in the latter is worth four shillings (about three rupees) and the Adjutant will be glad to receive any subscriptions.

* * * * *

Head-quarters celebrated Her Majesty's Eightieth Birthday in right loyal fashion. The "games" have been fully reported in another column, so we need particularise little here. Making the Mile Race an open event was certainly a grave error proved by the result. Our correspondent's hope that this item may be omitted from the next programme cannot but be re-echoed by all who witnessed what he most justly calls a "very melancholy affair." Shade of 1898!

—:o:—

Time and Finish.

—o—

Well this 'ere Pultan cawts it, but thar
It's enough fer ter give yer a shock—
A' hofficer lower's 'isself so far
That 'e smashes the reg'ment's clock.

"Queen's Birthday" Games.

—o—

It was unanimously agreed that the "Games" held on the 24th instant—Her Majesty's 80th Birthday—were a great success. Not that there were any startlingly new and original items on the programme. It was the same old programme, the good old programme. But there were none of the usual rather tedious waits between the events. A smart committee managed the meeting, and one event followed another with praiseworthy regularity and in rapid succession, and everybody was kept constantly interested from start to finish.

The first item on the programme—the 100 yards—was a good race. Lillywhite got away first, but Adcock gradually overhauled him and just won. As usual, the "Tug-o'-war" was provocative of a good deal of excitement. In the first round "H" pulled over "F" rather easily, while "E" had not such an easy matter in disposing of "G." In the final, after a good pull lasting some 3 minutes, "H" got "E" over the line. The following composed the winning team:—Lance-Corporal H. Munroe, Privates Duncan, Dawson, Burns, Scott, Lawrie, Morrison, Gillon, Cattanach and Hawthorne. "Jock's" win in the "Old Soldiers' Race" was a very popular one; he romped home in a canter without distressing himself a little bit. The "Mile" was a very melancholy affair for the 93rd, and we trust that this item will be omitted in our next programme, unless we have Mossman or some other sturdy runner to worthily represent us. The "½ Mile" was, on the other hand, a grand race, and in a measure consoled us for the disastrous Mile; Adcock got away, maintained his lead throughout, and won easily. "F" Company negotiated the "Khud Race" in excellent time. Private Scullion of that company was the quickest man home. Far and away the most amusing event of the day was the boxing (?) contest. The majority of the contestants deserved the hearty thanks of the observers for their highly original and amusing exposition of the noble art.

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The following is the programme with the names of the winners :—

PART I.

(1) 100 yds. Race ... 1st, Cpl. Adcock.
2nd, Bandsman Lillywhite.
3rd, Pte. Comrie.

(2) Putting the Shot ... 1st, Pte. Gillon, 35 ft. 5 ins.
2nd, Sgt. Reid, 34 ft. 11 ins.
3rd, Pte. Fraser, 34 ft. 11 ins.

In deciding the tie, Sergeant Reid won 2nd place with 36 ft. 3 ins.

(3) Bandboys' Race (220 yds.) 1st, Eric Dunne.
2nd, Morrison.
3rd, Parry.

(4) Throwing the Hammer, 1st, Sgt. Reid, 83 ft. 6 ins.
2nd, Pte. G. McDonald, 82 ft. 7 ins.
3rd, Pte. H. Scott, 74 ft. 6 ins.

(5) Non-Com.-Offrs.' Race (440 yds.) 1st, L.-Cpl. Hudghton.
2nd, L.-Cpl. Laird.
3rd, L.-Cpl. Jamieson.

(6) Reel dancing ... 1st, G. Company's set (Sgt. Piper Ferguson, Pte. G. McDonald, Piper Nicholson, Pte. McAlister).

(7) Tug-o'-war { "H" v. "F," winners "H." / "E" v. "G," winners "E." / "H" v. "E," winners "H."

(8) Old Soldiers' Race ... 1st, Cr. Sgt. Middleby.
2nd, Sgt. Reid.
3rd, Sgt. Watters.

(9) Pipe Playing ... Winners :—L.-Cpl. Lynch (March), Piper McLachlan (Strathspey and Reel).

(10) Children's Race (Boys) 1st, Arthur Holden.
2nd, Harry Lundie.
3rd, Johnnie Lundie.

(11) Children's Race (Girls) 1st, Dolly Mitchell.
2nd, Christie Mitchell.
3rd, Elsie Campbell.

PART II.

(12) Clog Dancing ... 1st, Pte. Burns.
2nd, Pte. Given.

(13) Half-mile Race (open) 1st, Cpl. Adcock, 93rd.
2nd, Pte. Farrer, 59th.
3rd, Pte. Comrie, 93rd.

(14) Club Swinging (Boys) 1st, Geo. Mitchell.
2nd, Archibald Campbell.
3rd, Vernon Campbell.

(15) Khud Race (Company teams, 1 N.-C.-O. and 6 men). 1st, "F" Company's team.
2nd, "H" Company's team.

(16) Boxing (Catch Weights) 1st, Pte. Lightbody.
2nd, Pte. Goff.

(17) Mile Race (Open) ... 1st, Pte. W. Farrer, 59th.
2nd, Pte D. Farrer, 59th.
3rd, Pte. Comrie, 93rd.

(18) Highland Fling ... 1st, L.-Cpl. Lynch.
2nd, Pte. Gordon.

(19) High Jump ... 1st, Cpl. Adcock, 5 ft. 2 ins.
2nd { Pte. Edwards. / Pte. Hiddles.

(20) Ghillie Callum ... 1st, Sgt. Piper Ferguson.
2nd, Pte. Gordon.

The Rollin' Half Hundred.

—o—

A few lies suggested by the sight of a derelict horse careering through barracks—

"One Volunteer is worth ten Sogers."

Ole Goe Steal in the Tu'penny Times.

They were there with their slippers on,
Some had their puttee's on,
A few had their *jutee's* on,
Tiranwe *paltan* wondered
What they were doing there,
Who in Heaven's name they were,
When an awful voice thundered—
"Stand to your horses there,
Rollin' Half Hundred."

Swiftly they mounted then,
Sergeant Slackbaggs counted them,
And nearly fainted when
He found what they numbered,—
"Good God!" the Sergeant said
"Forty absent off parade;
"The rest o' ye shud hav' stayed
"And made it the half-hundred."

The Sergeant then with neck set hard
Salutes the Captain with his sword,
With a "Present, Sir," again he scored,
Though perhaps the Captain wondered;
But not his to make reply,
Not his to reason why,
His to wink the other eye
At the Rollin' Half Hundred.

"Sections Right" came a grim command,
Vainly they tried, that little band,
A nigger could understand
That some one had blundered;
"Fall out," the Captain yelled in pain,
"Now," said he, "fall in again,"
And a gloomy sky betokened rain
As the Harmless Half re-numbered.

Please remember mixing pills,
Making wills, and driving quills
Or "tennissing" with spoony gals
Makes one apt to blunder;
As "Bungy Rowe" has quaintly said
"Every gardener to his spade
"And burglar to his plunder;"
But I don't think 'twould spoil "our trade—"
Another Half Hundred.

CAEN MOR.

DEATHS.

LUNDIE.—At Chaubattia, on the 14th May, Robert Kesson, the infant son of Sergeant Major R. Lundie, 93rd Highlanders.

OTTO.—At the Station Hospital, Chaubattia, on the 18th May, No. 5780, Boy C. Otto, "E" Company.

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Being Notes of the Right Wing at Shahjehanpur.

Shahjehanpur has been productive of somewhat more news this month than last; an "open air concert" and a shooting match followed by a Corporals' smoking concert helping to break the monotony of the month, whilst in addition there have been, despite the closeness of the evenings, numerous cricket matches.

Since last month great progress has been made with the musketry and field training of the Wing. "A" have finished the annual course, and their chance of continuing their hold upon the "Shield" is very rosy indeed. Except during one day they had excellent weather for firing, and taking full advantage of it have come out with an average of 94 for individual practices. Their scoring at the longer ranges was exceptionally good. Colour-Sergeant Mitchell wears the "Star." Upon "A" concluding "C" Company, who had just finished field training, commenced musketry, and by the end of the month the whole four companies had been exercised; a party of casuals including the signallers have now commenced. "D" also are half way through their field training, which will soon leave but "A" to finish this part of their military course.

The open air concert was a great success. It took place on the evening of the 3rd May when the weather was all that could be desired, the faintest breeze just tempering the otherwise somewhat close atmosphere. Soon after the first post of tattoo the skirling of the pipers as they circled around the outside of the auditorium announced the "fall in," and for some two full hours or so following a very excellent entertainment was enjoyed. The Wing was, of course out in full force, and nearly all the officers were present, whilst there were many visitors from the Civil Lines—the guests of the Sergeants, who dispensed light refreshments during the interval.

A programme following, there is little necessity to particularise, all the items being of more than average excellence. Mention must, however, be made of reception of Mrs. Maclean's songs, encores, which were willingly given, being vociferously called for on both occasions. Sergeant Leitch of the Cameronians was also most enthusiastically received by the right wing, and his future popularity is assured. It seems almost unnecessary to mention that Drummer Brisland was repeatedly called back, as he almost invariably has to give his repertoire when once on the stage. Private Cole's powerful voice was heard to great advantage in the open air, and only the already undue length of the programme prevented his obliging with any encores; Lieutenant Maclean's song and Sergeant Johnstone's recitation also went a long way to make up the excellent programme, which herewith follows:—

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

Pianoforte Overture ... ... Lance-Corporal Ure.
Opening Chorus ... "Little Sister's Gone to Sleep."
1. *Song* ... ... "Donald McIntyre."
Private L. Ferguson.
2. *Song* ... ... "Flora Macdonald's Lament."
Private Strachan.
3. *Song* ... ... "Rotton Row."
Private Cole.
4. *Gaelic Song* ... "Catah me cum croghan eith."
J. McGillvray.
5. *Song* ... ... "The Supper Party."
Drummer Brisland.
Encore
6. *Song* ... ... "Ford of Cabul River."
Lieut. C. A. H. Maclean.
7. *Highland Fling* ... ... Piper Maclean.
8. *Song* ... ... "Loch Lomond."
Mrs. Maclean.

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Encore ... ... "Lament of Maclean of Ardgour."
9. *Song* ... "Good Bye, Sweetheart, Good Bye." Private ARMOUR.
10. *Song* ... ... "A Soldier and a Man." Private ATHERTON.
11. *Song* ... ... "Out of her element." Sergt. LEITCH (The Cameronians).
Encore ... ... "The 18th Royal Irish."

Interval of 10 minutes.

Pianoforte Selection ... ... Lance-Corporal URE.

1. *Song* ... "Has your Mither ony mair like you." Private LOGAN.
2. *Song* ... ... "The Bonny Doon." Private COLE.
3. *Song* ... ... "The Scavenger Brigade." Private L. FERGUSON.
4. *Recitation* ... "The Execution of Montrose." Sergeant JOHNSTONE.
5. *Song* ... ... Parody on "Loch Lomond." Drummer BRISLAND.
Encore ... ... Parody on "The Ship I love."
6. *Song* ... ... "When other Lips." Private STRACHAN.
7. *Song* ... ... "My Scotch Lassie Jean." Mrs. MACLEAN.
Encore ... ... "A Little Bit of String."
8. *Song* ... ... "The Chinaman." Private ATHERTON.
9. *Song* ... ... "The Lounder." Sergeant LEITCH.
Encore ... ... "The Time Expired man."
Closing Chorus ... ... "Good Night."
Sergeant LEITCH, Lce.-Cpl. URE, Privates ARMOUR, ATHERTON, FERGUSON, COLE, LOGAN and STRACHAN.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

The 17th was a great day with the Corporals. It was the first opportunity they have had for some considerable time of showing how hospitable they can be, and they took full advantage of it. The Officers and Sergeants were invited to a "shoot" in the afternoon on the range, whilst the evening was to be spent in a convivial manner, the use of the theatre having been obtained for the occasion. On the range the hosts were certainly outclassed and suffered a defeat by no less than one hundred and twenty-six points, but in the concert room they certainly made up for any deficiency. Captain Robinson and most of the officers came up after mess: the commanding officer in addition to making a speech, in which he accounted for the easy win on the range to the fact that the majority of the senior team must have fired at the wrong target, adding to the vocal part of the evening's enjoyment. Lieutenants C. A. H. Maclean and Marshall, and Sergeants Durnan, Johnstone, Beavis and Leitch, also amongst the visitors, contributed to the evening's amusement, whilst the Corporals themselves were vocally well represented in the persons of Messrs. Rankin, Wilson, Ure, Gardiner and Palmer (R. W. Kents). The programme was still further added to by the inclusion of several regimental favourites from the ranks, and in spite of the fact that the stage was somewhat small Corporal Williams contributed some very clever ground tumbling.

The following are the scores of the shooting match fired in the afternoon. There was a rather fresh breeze from the right which affected the shooting considerably at the longer distances, whilst by the finish of the match the light had fallen considerably.

OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergeant J. Ewan	29	33	25	87
Clr.-Sergt. R. Mitchell	29	31	26	86
Lieut. C. A. H. Maclean	24	30	28	82
Clr.-Sergt. R. Gilmour	27	23	30	80
Sergt. Instr. O'Driscoll, R.V.R.	22	26	31	79
2nd Lieut. H. M. Thomson	22	31	22	75
Sergeant W. G. Stonor,	24	29	22	75
Lieut. K. F. C. Marshall	27	28	20	75
Captain F. L. Jackson	31	28	16	75
" S. L. Robinson	20 (*sub.*)	31	23	74
" K. B. Cameron	25 (*sub.*)	29	13	67
Sergeant R. Dunkeld	23	23	20	66
	303	342	276	921

CORPORALS.

Corporal E. G. Cody	25	24	23	72
" G. Watt	27	23	21	71
Lce.-Corpl. W. Moat	22	28	20	70
" " Cockburn	25	27	16	68
Corporal H. Williams	22	20	24	66
Lce.-Corpl. A. Wilson	28	22	16	66
" " W. Stewart	23	22	20	65
" " Gardiner	25	23	17	65
" " G. Ure	29	21	14	64
" " Morrison	27	22	14	63
Corporal Norrie	22	28	13	63
" A. Rankin	14	20	28	62
	289	280	226	795

The wing most loyally celebrated Her Gracious Majesty's 80th Birthday with a full dress strong-as-possible parade and the usual feu-de-joie, which a few spectators deigned to witness. The remainder of the 24th May was of course observed as a holiday, the energy to indulge, as hilly head-quarters, in "sports" being, not unnaturally, wanting.

A travelling company, a "one-horse" affair, paid Shahjehanpur a visit during the month, but met with very little success.

* * * * *

The following Wing gazette should have appeared in our last number's Shajehanpur Notes:—

WING APPOINTMENTS.

To be Sergeant-Major.—Colour-Sergeant T. A. Swan, "C" Company.

To be Quarter-Master Sergeant.—Sergeant J. Ewan, "C" Company.

To be Orderly Room Sergeant.—Lance-Corporal E. A. Daniel, "H" Company.

To be Garrison Provost Sergeant.—Sergeant W. G. Olden "A" Company.

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EMPLOYMENT.

In Regimental Institute.—Corporal D. Gordon, "A" Company; No. 5752, Private J. Sutherland, "B" Company; No. 5554, Private M. Sharpe, "C" Company.

In Officers' Mess.—Sergeant C. Johnstone, "B" Company; No. 5597, Private W. Kerr, "D" Company.

Library.—No. 3364, Private J. Conway, "C" Company.

Range, Musketry and Station Stores.—No. 4000, Private E. McConnell, "A" Company.

Fire Engine.—No. 4579, Private T. Logan, "B" Company.

CRICKET AT SHAHJEHANPUR.

"B" COMPANY v. "C" COMPANY—Played at Shahjehanpur on the 13th May; "B" being victorious by some sixty runs. Scores, "B" 104 (Pte. Atherton 53), "C" 43 (Corpl. Duff 11, Pte. Keanedy 11).

Another match by teams representing the same Companies was played on the 25th ult., the scores on this occasion were "B" 51 (Pte. Logan 15), "C" 48.

Again another match on the 28th ult. when "C" secured a victory by 1 run. Scores:—"B" 47 (Pte. Logan 17) "C" 48 (Pte. Harper 14).

"A" COMPANY v. "B" COMPANY—The latter Company were again not fully represented in this match played on the 31st ult., and were worsted by 9 runs. Scores:—"A" 53 (Pte. Hansen 15) "B" 44 (Pte. Atherton 11).

"A" COMPANY v. "D" COMPANY—These companies met on the 27th ult. when "D" had an easy victory owing to their opponent's chief mainstay being absent. There was again another match between these teams on the 30th with "D" again in the ascendant. Sergeant Daniel was the chief scorer for the winners on both occasions, but unfortunately the scores of neither match are to hand.

—:o:—

Temperance at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

The Army Temperance Association, though labouring under many disadvantages and misfortunes has managed to amuse its members during the season by the institution of another card competition.

The following are the winners of the final and semi-final rounds :—

BEZIQUE.

Semi-final.

Brown, "C" Company, beat Rankin, "A" Company.
Forbes, "A" „ a bye.

Final.

Brown beat Forbes.

DRAUGHTS.

First Round.

Cairns, "D" Company, beat Mossman, "B" Company.
Balfour, "D" „ Dale, "A" „

Final.

Cairns beat Balfour.

CRIBBAGE.

Semi-final.

Rankin, "A" Company, beat McLean, "D" Company.
McDonald, "B" Company, a bye.

Final.

McDonald beat Rankin.

DOM.

Semi-final.

Clements, "C" Coy. } beat { McMahon, "C" Coy.
McGregor, "D" „ } { Smith, "D" „
McLean and Crawford, "D" Coy., a bye.

Final.

Clements and McGregor beat McLean and Crawford.

WHIST.

Semi-final.

Ward "A" Coy. } beat { Burke, "D" Coy.
Cairns, "D" „ } { Harper, "C" „
Dale, "A" Coy., and Brown, "C" Coy., a bye.

Final.

Ward and Cairns beat Dale and Brown.

Committee—Privates Thomas, Coyle and Tawse.

THE OFFICER COMMANDING,
93rd A. and S. Highlanders,
Toronto, April 19th, 1899.

DEAR SIR,

I am desired by the Army and Navy Veterans Society to write to inform you that the city council of the city of Toronto has granted this Society permission to take charge of the old military burying ground now "Memorial Park" in this city; the city council has also granted $250 to the monument fund started by this Society for the purpose of erecting a monument to the memory of the soldiers buried in this beautiful park. The regiments interested by having members buried in this historical graveyard are 93rd Highlanders, 1st Royal Scots, 6th, 8th, 41st, 49th, 82nd, 89th, 43rd Rifle Brigade, 100th Regiment and 19th Hussars; there are about 500 altogether in officers, non-commissioned officers and men: an old 93rd Highlander, Peter Sheppard, a noble Sergeant veteran, says that there are at least 50 of the 93rd buried here. We had the honour to assist the family of this fine old soldier to celebrate his 89th birthday on the 10th of this month, and he is still over six feet high, and in good health and spirits.

In the past this graveyard has been sadly neglected, the stones broken and destroyed, in fact a grazing ground for cattle. Now, however, it has been made into a beautiful park, the Veterans Society will erect a monument costing $2,500. The monument will be surmounted by a statue of a British soldier resting with arms reversed, and the regiments interested will be inscribed on the base. We desire to make this historical park a lasting honour to our old comrades. I am desired to write to the regiments interested for a donation to assist in this good work. We feel assured, Sir, that the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 93rd would desire to assist in honouring old comrades. The project is meeting with much sympathy, for in the short time since the city gave this society the permission before stated, $400 has been subscribed here. Among those who sent contributions and best wishes for success are Col. Trench, 100th Regiment, Lord Minto, Major-General Hutton and Colonel Otter. Trusting, Sir, this will meet with your approval, I am your most humble servant,

JOHN R. GRAY,
Secretary, Toronto, Canada.

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In the Breach of the Sikundra Bagh.

There will always probably remain some amount of uncertainty as to who was really the first to enter the breach at the storming of the famous Sikundra Bagh at Lucknow on the 16th November 1857, and it is far from our intention to discuss such a matter here; besides when eye-witnesses disagree who can can decide! Still, previous to the publication of Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon-Alexander's "Recollections of a Highland Subaltern" there appears never to have been a doubt but that the gallant Sikh regiment, brigaded with the 93rd throughout the Mutiny Campaign, was not unrepresented when the frantic rush was made for the breach in the rebel stronghold. Colonel Gordon-Alexander has written somewhat differently in his book, however, and it is only through an excellent review of his "Recollections" recently published in the *Pioneer* that a new and very interesting, though to us somewhat delicate, phase of the originally accepted accounts has been elicited. By further research into the many histories of the Mutiny it is possible to question the accuracy of even this addition to relief of Lucknow literature, but before attempting to do this we may be pardoned for giving, almost in full, the *Pioneer's* capital review of the latest addition to our many regimental histories.

As an introduction the *Pioneer* of the 11th May says:—

It has probably occurred to many of us, when reading histories or narratives of the Mutiny, to ask ourselves the question—in which of all the stirring achievements there recorded would we, if a choice could be allowed us, elect to have taken part? Some would doubtless decide in favour of the storming of Delhi. Others would prefer to have had a share in the first relief, or rather the reinforcement of the beleaguered garrison of Lucknow by the heroic handful of troops led by Havelock and Outram. A great majority would probably choose either one or the other. But after these two supreme episodes, there is none, we think, of which the story more stirs the blood and fires the imagination than the taking of the Sikandra Bagh on the 16th November, 1857. It combined and compressed into the space of some two hours many of the most thrilling and dramatic elements of warfare. The bombardment in which the heavy guns of Travers vied with the lighter metal of Blunt and Middleton; the pause of breathless expectation during which Saxon and Highlander, Irishman and Sikh lay under fire, watching for the signal that was to launch them against enemies who had forfeited all claims to mercy; the frantic emulation of the rush for the breach when the word at last was given; none of these was lacking.

Often and variously as the story of that desperate struggle has been told, all its tellers are agreed that of the regiments which took part in it, the 93rd Highlanders may fairly claim to have been the protagonists. The latest and probably the most accurate version of the events of that memorable day is contained in Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon-Alexander's *Recollections of a Highland Subaltern*, which narrates the doings of the splendid corps with which he served during the campaigns of 1857-59. The whole volume deserves the careful attention of all students of Mutiny history, but its most interesting chapter is that devoted to the storming of the Sikandra Bagh. The preface explains how the book came to be written. It is based on a contemporary diary kept by the author, and its publication is due to a correspondence in the *Standard* in January, 1897, in which the vexed question of who was the first man to enter the breach at the Sikandra Bagh was once more raised. Colonel Gordon-Alexander contributed a letter to the discussion in which he mentioned that he had kept a diary during the whole of the Mutiny campaigns of his regiment, a statement which elicited several suggestions that the record should be prepared for publication. These suggestions seem to have directed Colonel Gordon-Alexander's attention for the first time to the study of Mutiny literature. For it was not till after their receipt that he read Kaye and Malleson's *History*, Lord Roberts' *Forty-one Years in India*, *The Memories of Lord Clyde*, by General Shadwell and Archibald Forbes, Russell's *Diary in India*, and other well known works. It seems strange that a man who went through the scenes described in these *Recollections* and who had it in him to write so excellent an account of them, should have so long left unread what others had written on the same subject. And it is perhaps stranger still that he does not even now appear to have made acquaintance with Forbes-Mitchell's *Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny*, the author of which was a Sergeant of the 93rd and travels over precisely the same ground as Colonel Gordon-Alexander himself.

The strange discrepancies in the accounts, many of them given by eye-witnesses, of the storming of the Sikandra Bagh, furnish a good illustration of the difficulty of arriving at the exact truth of what happens in the heat of action. It was stated in Sir Colin Campbell's despatch of the 18th November 1857, written only two days after the event, that "when the attack on the Sikandra Bagh had been proceeding for about an hour and a half, it was determined to take the place by storm through a small opening which had been made. This was done in the most brilliant manner by the remainder of the Highlanders, and the 53rd and the 4th Punjab Infantry, supported by a battalion of detachments under Major Barnston." Forbes-Mitchell (page 84) gives the order of entering the breach as follows:—1st, Lance-Corporal Dunlay, or Donnelly, of the 93rd; 2nd, Subadar Gokul Singh of the 4th Punjab Rifles; 3rd, Sergeant-Major Murray of the 93rd; 4th Captain Burroughs of the same regiment. But on page 236 we find Sergeant-Major Murray awarded the second place; Gokul Singh the third, and Burroughs either the fourth or fifth. Forbes-Mitchell adds that "about this time he himself got through, pushed up by Colonel Ewart, who immediately followed."

Lord Roberts (Vol. I., p. 326 of *Forty-one years*) writes that "a Highlander was the first to reach the goal, and was shot dead as he jumped into the enclosure; a man of the 4th Punjab Infantry came next, and met the same fate. Then followed Lieutenant Cooper of the 93rd, and immediately behind him his Colonel (Ewart), Captain Lumsden of the 30th Bengal Infantry (attached as Interpreter to the 93rd) and a number of Sikhs and Highlanders as fast as they could scramble through the opening."

Lord Roberts appears in the above passage to have followed Malleson, who at page 129, Vol. IV, of his *History* gives an almost exactly similar account, using in many places the same words, and Colonel Gordon-Alexander tells us that it was the perusal of these statements, "recorded as 'history' by Colonel Malleson," that finally decided him to write his *Recollections*. His own "true story of the storming of the Sikandra Bagh" joins issue with the above accounts, and positively states that when the bugle sounded the advance, though the whole British line rushed towards the building, not more than 200 men all told, made for the breach, and that those 200 were all 93rd Highlanders. No native soldier reached the breach first, or even attempted to enter it for more than twenty minutes after the assault was delivered, nor did

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any man of the 53rd or of Major Barnston's battalion. The first to enter was Captain Burroughs, commanding No. 6 Company, to which Gordon-Alexander was himself attached. Burroughs had made up his mind to be first man in, and had persisted in standing up under fire during the bombardment, while his men were lying down under the imperfect shelter of a small bank. He thus secured a good start of "at least a dozen yards," when the signal was given, before any of his company, which was directly opposite and nearest to the breach, and it would be strange if under such favourable conditions he had not been first at the goal. He was followed by Private Dunlay (Donnelly ?) and two or three more men of No. 6 Company. Then Cooper, Lieutenant of No. 5 Company, pushed every one aside "like the excitable Irishman he was," and forced his way in. Then came Colonel Ewart, and after him Gordon-Alexander himself. All but Burroughs were helped into the hole. An eye-witness quoted by Malleson, who speaks of Cooper as the first to enter, describes his flying jump into the breach as like "the headlong leap which harlequin in a pantomime makes through a shop window." Colonel Gordon-Alexander tells us that he finds almost the same words in the record in his diary of Burroughs' performance and argues that such a feat could only have been performed by a very short man, whereas Cooper's height was nearly six feet. Burroughs was as diminutive as he was brave, scarcely five feet high according to Forbes-Mitchell. After carefully considering the conflicting versions quoted above by the light of Colonel Gordon-Alexander's plan of the Sikandra Bagh, we think that he must be held to have made out his case so far as relates to the entry of the main breach; that Burroughs was certainly the first to enter it and that none but the 93rd Highlanders entered it at all. Sir Colin when writing his despatch must have been misled by the resemblance of the uniform of the Punjab Sappers and Miners to that of the 4th Sikh Rifles, for the Sappers did race with the Highlanders to the breach in order to enlarge it, and some of them were killed before they reached it. Colonel Gordon-Alexander (p. 81) denies that there was more than one breach, on the ground that two 18-pounders of Travers' battery were the only heavy guns brought to bear on the building, and that Blunt's lighter guns made no impression whatever. But this argument does not seem to outweigh the positive assertion of an officer of the 53rd who in the correspondence in the *Standard*, already referred to, distinctly states that a small breach was also made by Middleton's guns, "through which the 53rd entered almost simultaneously with the 93rd from the other side through the larger breach made by Captain Travers' guns of position. Each party inside the place was unaware till they came across the other that there were two breaches." With this exception we can see no reason for not accepting Colonel Gordon-Alexander's narrative as the final and trustworthy history of the taking of the Sikandra Bagh.

Some few days afterwards the same paper in a leading article, after quoting its reviewer's statement that Colonel Gordon-Alexander "must be held to have made out his case so far as relates to the entry of the main breach; that Burroughs was certainly the first to enter it; and *that none but the 93rd Highlanders entered it at all*," continues:—"We do not think these inferences would be regarded as hasty or unwarranted by any one who reads Colonel Gordon-Alexander's volume; but a British officer who was present with the 4th Punjab Infantry, and is now retired in India, sends us an account of the affair which differs materially from Colonel Gordon-Alexander's version, and yet, coming as it does from an officer of unimpeachable veracity, must be accepted as of no less authority. The fight at the Sikandra Bagh is of such great historic interest that we give our correspondent's narrative all possible prominence. The facts, as he states them in his own words, are these: "During the time that the guns were breaching the Sikandra Bagh, the 93rd and the 4th Punjab Infantry, who were brigaded together, lay down behind a wall to be out of the hail-storm of musketry which played over them from the loopholed enclosure. When the breach was declared practicable, Sir Colin Campbell gave the word for the assault; but for a second or two there was just a little hesitation or want of alacrity in the men of both regiments to respond to the call—a thing that will often happen where the men have been allowed to break their ranks and take shelter behind walls. At this moment Subadar-Major Gokul Singh, of the 4th Punjab Infantry, a Dogra by caste, stepped out into the open, drew his curved *talwar*, and waving it over his head, called out to his men *chalo bhai*. Sir Colin Campbell there and then asked the Subadar's name, and had it written down On this appeal the men of the 4th Punjab Infantry at once started to their feet; but the Highlanders, not brooking to be shown the way by Natives, immediately charged across the open space to the breach, mixed up with the men of the 4th Punjab Infantry. It is conceded that a Highlander, or it may be two or three, were first to enter the breach, but it is also certain that they were immediately followed, as described by Lord Roberts in his book, by 'a number of Sikhs—' the men of the Punjab regiments were all called Sikh in those days—'and Highlanders as fast as they could scramble.' Why your reviewer should infer that Lord Roberts followed Malleson in his account I know not, seeing that Lord Roberts was there himself. Moreover, General Sir John Withers McQueen, who was second-in-command of the 4th Punjab Infanty, still survives to vouch for it, as he was among the very first himself to enter the breach. And that Subadar Gokul Singh should have been singled out by Sir Colin Campbell for special mention in his despatches, and that he should have had the almost unique honour of being thanked in Orders by the Governor-General, conclusively shows that the 4th Punjab Infantry took no second place on this occasion, but shared equally with the 93rd in the honours of the assault. The breach being blocked by the first comers, a large number of both regiments passed round towards the front of the enclosure, where the main entrance was—a lofty gateway with heavy folding-doors, in front of which a ditch and parapet had been made, mounted by two small brass cannons for defence. The mutineers in this outwork, seeing our men approaching, hastily retired within the gateway, but before they could quite close it, a man of the 4th Punjab Infantry thrust the stock of his rifle between the leaves of the door, which was then soon burst open, and in streamed Sepoys and Highlanders together, along with men of the 53rd who had then come up. This was the only other way into the Sikandra Bagh, for there was no other breach, as some have supposed. The loss of the 4th Punjab Infantry on this occasion was very severe, two of the four European officers with it having been mortally, and one dangerously wounded, while 69 Native officers and men were killed or wounded out of a strength much reduced by the regiment's previous share in the capture of Delhi, and in the actions under General Greathed and Grant on their march down to the relief of Lucknow, besides leaving two companies behind for garrison duty." As we have said, the British officer who sends us this graphic narrative is now living in India, and his statements must be accepted as of no less authority than those of any other officer who was present at the Sikandra Bagh on this famous occasion. It is not the first time in history that two contra-

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dictory accounts of the same events have been vouched for by on-lookers whose veracity is beyond dispute. If the explanation usually adopted be accepted in this instance—that one man sees less than another, and yet takes what he sees as all that was to be seen—the account now given of the Sikandra Bagh fight will displace that of Colonel Gordon-Alexander; for while our correspondent is positive that he saw the men of the 4th Punjab Infantry enter the breach, all Colonel Alexander can assert is that he did not see them."

No unbiassed person would, we feel sure, after reading either of the above statements, be disposed to admit wholly the truth of the former in the face of the latter, and we ourselves are inclined to accept the version of the *Pioneer's* correspondent, agreeing as it seems to do in its general points with all former and traditional accounts of the storming of the Sikandra Bagh. There is one part of the correspondent's narative, however, that, much as we admire the Punjabi soldier, be he Sikh, Dogra or Pathan, we, as the successors of those gallant men who fought through the bloody campaign of "Fifty-seven" cannot allow to pass unchallenged. The *Pioneer's* correspondent's statement that when the command for the assault was given by Sir Colin Campbell "there was just a little hesitation, or want of alacrity in the men of both regiments to respond to the call—a thing that will often happen where the men have been allowed to break their ranks and take shelter" may be perfectly true, and if true, perfectly natural, but we think it is quite explained away by another account of that famous action, written several years ago, long before the *Pioneer's* correspondent had ever put his version of the affair on paper. The other version is as follows:—

"For some time we lay down sheltered by a low mud wall not more than one hundred and fifty or two hundred yards from the walls of the Sikandra Bagh to allow time for the heavy guns to breach the garden wall. It was an anxious moment, but, after a few discharges, a hole—it could not be called a breach—was made, and the *order was given to the 4th Punjab Rifles to storm.* They sprang out of cover, but before they were half-way across the intervening distance, their Commanding Officer fell mortally wounded, and I think two others of their European officers were severely wounded. This caused a slight halt of the Punjabis: Sir Colin called to Colonel Ewart; one of our buglers who was in attendance on Sir Colin sounded the "advance," and the whole of the 93rd dashed from behind the bank." Thus writes Forbes-Mitchell in his book "*Reminiscences of the Great Mutiny*," and although he appears to be the only other writer of mutiny history excepting the *Pioneer's* correspondent who, in describing the attack on the Sikandra Bagh, mentions the 4th Punjab Rifles as leading the attack, his statement must be accepted as none the less trustworthy on this account; in fact in the present case the accuracy of it seems almost indisputable by its agreement in this particular. The *Pioneer's* contention above, slightly altered, "that one man *hears* less than another, and yet takes what he *hears* as all that was to be *heard*" can be applied here, for it seems only reasonable to imagine that a verbal order conveyed to two somewhat extended regiments, with the men in the highest state of excitement, could not have been heard simultaneously, even providing that the order to attack was given to the 93rd at the same time that the 4th Punjabis received it, which Forbes-Mitchell's statement does not bear out, and that it was necessary for the bugle to sound the "advance" before the order could be thoroughly understood.

—:o:—

The Shameless Highlander.

—o—

The Rev. F. Hoagland, of Paterson (New Jersey) Y.M.C.A., has protested against kilts as "highly improper," and the Highland fling as "indecent." He says the Queen is "doubtless respectable," but she is indiscreet, and he is going to write to her on the subject of her bare-kneed attendants.—DAILY PAPER.

Whose antics are beyond a joke?
Who shocks the nerves of decent folk?
Who makes us blush like anything
By dancing his indecent fling?
Who loves to feel the chilly breeze
Come whistling round his undraped knees?
Who does his best to pain and vex
The unco guid of either sex?

The wicked, shameless Highlander,
The far from blameless Highlander,
Whose scanty frock
Would give a shock
To e'en a South Sea Islander.

Who even lets his legs be seen
By England's rash but virtuous Queen?
Who disregards our flaming cheeks,
And scorns the very thought of "breeks"?
Who thinks his birthright he would lose
Were he to don the decent "trews"?
And counts it manly to assume
A wild and barbarous costume?
The wicked, shameless Highlander, &c.

Who makes his foes to cut and run
Ere yet the battle is begun?
(For godly men must turn and flee,
Or face an "altogether" knee.
For that, in confidence, is why
The Gordons triumphed at Dargai).
Who all his martial record owes
To having fought with modest foes?
The wicked, shameless Highlander, &c.

From "The Dragon."

—:o:—

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it winders whither spectacles an' newspapers hae been ta'en intae wear yet at Shahjehanpur.

That "E" and "F" Companies had a glorious day for feenishin melitary trainin.

That someane wis heard tae remark that "E" Company's dinners pit the fires oot.

That the Sergeants hev' fairly been daein the gran' thing lately.

That the last picnic wis a great success.

That it didna get drooned this time.

That the dances are even better than they wis at Bareilly.

That duck is no a vera safe game unless ye're ready tae duck yersel.

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What its cousin at Shahjehanpur says—
That the Gaff wis vara guid indeed considerin.'
That the Corporals wis in gran' form on the 17th, especially in the evenin'.
That " Honey my Honey " sounds better " al-fresco."
That a mail train is no' always the maist jaldi.
That " Little Dolly " wis ower bashfu'.
That the champion middle weight is also in the Richt Hauf.
That the countersign is " Poocho."
That the pen is often mightier than the bunduk.
That a certain N. C. O. was maist anxious aboot the yill.
That he's a shining light o' temperance tae.
That cellular clothin' is fashionable.
That a goat chaise is a novelty at Shahjehanpur.

———:o:———

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant Master Tailor.—Lance-Corporal Hugh Crawford, "F" Company, promoted Sergeant and appointed Master Tailor, dated 3rd May 1899.

PAY OF RANK.

Of Lance-Corporal.—No. 5294, Lce.-Cpl. J. Stevenson, " D " Company, dated 1st May 1899; No. 5062, Lance-Corporal J. Soutar, " C " Company, dated 22nd May 1899.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Drummer.—No. 6338, Pte. W. Balfour, " E " Company.

To be Drummer.—No. 5690, Pte. P. Brisland, " C " Company.

To be Drill Sergeant.—No. 3306, Sergeant A. Lockie, " G " Company.

To be Assistant Gymnasium Instructor.—No. 4602, Pte. T. Currie, " G " Company.

To be Bandsman.—No. 2035, Pte. E. Chidley, " F " Company.

To be Acting as Piper.—No. 5697, Pte. P. McDonald, " G " Company.

Granted 1d. per diem—

" A " Company.

No. 6143, Pte. J. Robinson.

" D " Company.

„ 5650, Pte. J. Campbell.

" E " Company.

„ 6134, Pte. J. Ferris.

" F " Company.

, 3839, Pte. W. Campbell.

" H " Company.

„ 6139, Pte. T. Patterson.

No. 5678, Pte. J. Marshall. | No. 5993, Pte. G. Sherman.

Restored 1 d. per diem—

" C " Company.

No. 4591, Pte. T. Duffy.

RESTORATION OF SERVICE.

Color-Sergeant J. Middleby, " G " Company, to reckon 11 years 364 days in Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and Army Reserve towards pension. Auth. dated War Office, 28th April 1899, No. $\frac{35}{91}$/154.

EXTENSIONS AND RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

To complete 12 years' service :—

No. 5585,	Drummer	T. Brown,	" C " Company.
„ 5690,	„	P. Brisland,	" C " „

To complete 21 years' service :—

No. 3551,	Lce.-Sergt.	F. C. Marks,	" H " Company.
„ 959,	„ „	J. Reid,	" F " „
„ 1628,	Private	J. McNulty,	" G " „

TRANSFERS.

From Royal West Kent Regiment.—Lance-Corporal Hugh Crawford, " F " Company.

To Unattached List.—No. 3133, Sergt. W. D. Murdoch, from 11th April 1899. Auth. No. 1228 C, dated Simla, 25th April 1899.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

Passed at Shahjehanpur for under-mentioned ranks and granted certificates :—

For Rank of Sergeant.

No. 3557,	Corporal	F. Hiscock,	" A " Company.
„ 3293,	„	H. Williams,	" B " „
„ 4290,	„	J. Duff,	" C " „
„ 3808,	„	J. Allison,	" D " „
„ 4526,	„	W. Watt,	" D " „
„ 3611,	„	A. Maskell,	" B " „
„ 3885,	„	E. Mahoney,	" C " „
„ 4805,	„	W. Norrie,	" C " „
„ 4397,	„	E. G. Cody,	" D " „

For Rank of Corporal.

No. 4773,	Lce.-Cpl.	A. Wilson,	" A " Company.
„ 5079,	„ „	D. McGillivray,	" B " „
„ 5081,	Corporal	J. Kelley,	" C " „
„ 4811,	Lce.-Cpl.	A. Wight,	" C " „
„ 5587,	„ „	W. Johnstone,	" D " „
„ 5484,	„ „	G. Ure,	" B " „
„ 5254,	„ „	W. Stewart,	" B " „
„ 4102,	„ „	F. Marklew,	" C " „
„ 5062,	„ „	J. Soutar,	" C " „
„ 5101,	„ „	E. A. Daniel,	" D " „
(Subjects A, B and C.)			
„ 3548,	„ „	C. Greenland,	" A " „

———:o:———

Answers to Correspondents.

—o—

YOUNG LADY—(1) A corporal's pay is not inadequate. (2) From about 18 months to 2 years. (3) Surely you could find some way, such as dropping your handkerchief or purse when, to quote an old song, " He is near."

CIVILIAN—(1) The soldiers do not " fall out " at that word of command. (2) You are quite right; it was the great Napoleon who paid the *British Soldier* the compliment you mention.

NON-COM.—Your argument is bad. Because the person you mention has a *rishtadar* a musician it does not follow that he should know the difference between any two tunes on the bagpipes.

SWEET SEVENTEEN—Cheer up; there are as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it. If as you say " He left you for a damsel dark," probably he is sorry for it by this time.

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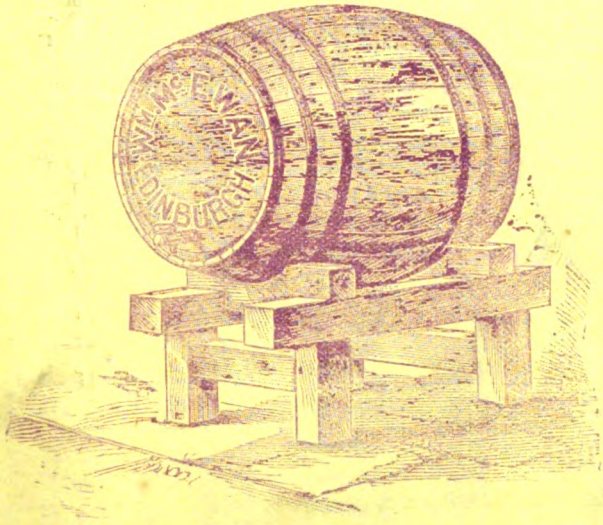

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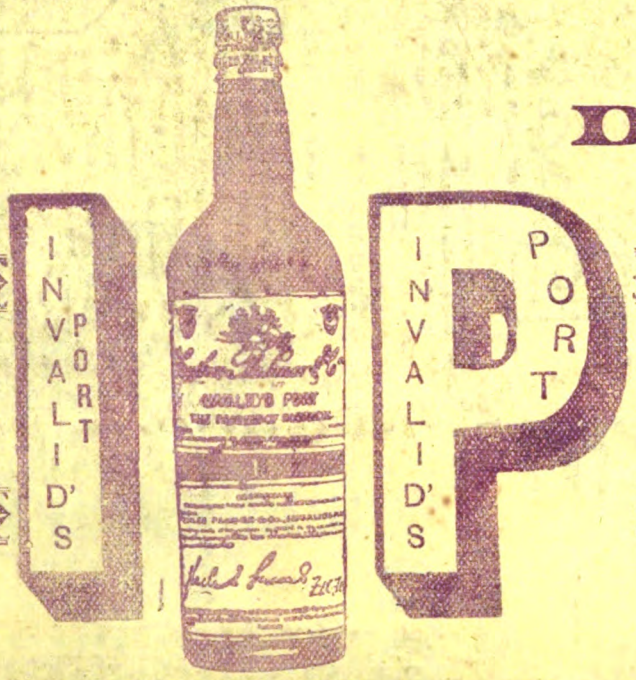

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The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 3—Vol. V. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—JULY 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE monsoon broke over Chaubattia on the 11th ultimo, a heavy fall on the evening of that date being its precursory movement. At first the rainfall was but moderate, latterly, however, it has been very heavy indeed, and there is now seldom a break in the lowering cloud and sky that surround Chaubattia hill.

* * * * *

Chaubattia was visited by the G. O. C. on the 14th ultimo, the institutes, and the barrack-rooms, in which the troops paraded, being in inspection order.

* * * * *

The wing should be particularly fit when the hill manœuvre season starts, if it has not, in a small way, already commenced. Route marching and *khud* climbing parades are enjoyed as frequently as possible, and the neighbourhood of Chaubattia, as previously mentioned, is especially adapted to this species of exhilarating pastime. The season of the monsoon does not admit, unfortunately, of a full gratification of one's desires in this respect, but it is a "poor heart that never rejoices," and we believe there are some strange persons to whom the patter of a heavy downpour upon the iron roofs of the bungalows about the hour of parade sounds as the most delicious music.

There was a *khud* scrambling parade on the 21st when "G" and "H" Companies went down the "corkskrew" hill, along the cart-road to the Hindu temple and past the Fitzwygram barracks home, whilst "E" and "F" Companies reversed the movement by going down by the temple and climbing up by the "corkskrew."

* * * * *

A dog show was held at Ranikhet on the 24th, when a few of the prizes came to Chaubattia.

* * * * *

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We have received from a home correspondent a little sylvan romance, and only hope that its publication in our pages may not lead to another "Fashoda Incident," or to international complications of a serious nature. We are much obliged to our correspondent "W. T." for the story, and hope to be again remembered by him at a no very distant date.

* * * * *

We are indebted to another home correspondent for the following from the *Evening News*:—

Rothesay pier will lose one of its Pointing Porters this summer by the removal of Mr. Daniel Duncan (No. 1), who has left for Chelsea, where he has been appointed a pensioner. Duncan served in the 93rd in the Crimea, helped to form the Thin Red Line, and was one of the volunteers in the Redan. He is a native of Rothesay, and served 21 years in the army, seeing much active work. In addition to service in the Crimea he shared the honours of the relief of Lucknow, and also fought on the Indian North-West frontier in the 60's. He possesses several valuable medals. A well-known figure on Rothesay pier, he will be decidedly missed.

* * * * *

The Sergeants' quadrille party on the 21st June was unanimously voted a huge success. Dancing commenced at 10 P.M. and continued with unabated vigour till "daylight did appear." The gymnasium was very suitably and tastefully got up for the occasion. Close upon a hundred sat down to supper, a large number of visitors having come from Ranikhet and the standing camp. A most enjoyable time was spent by everyone present, and the success of the dance must have amply rewarded the promoters. Colonel Goff was unfortunately absent owing to the regrettable indisposition of Mrs. Goff, but Major Campbell and most of the other officers at Chaubattia were present.

* * * * *

The dance was the commencement of the Sergeants' "97 Mobilisation" celebration, a smoking concert on the 28th June, the second anniversary of the battalion's arrival at Khushalgarh on the Indus, being the concluding item.

* * * * *

A party of recruits consisting of all the young officers who have joined within the last nine months or so and several boys have been exercised in musketry during the past month. 2nd-Lieutenant Newmann finished best with a score of 444; 2nd-Lieutenant Craster followed closely with 440, and 2nd-Lieutenant Eckford and Hon. A. C. Murray came next with scores of 432 and 431, respectively. Of the boys, Bandsman Parry was best with a score of 367. The figure of merit of the party was $\frac{3}{5}\frac{6}{3}\frac{5}{3}$.

* * * * *

Musketry and field training having been almost completed by the four companies at head-quarters, that comparatively modern, albeit popular, institution, the annual gymnastic course, is now disturbing the public mind and other internal organs. Two companies, "H" and "F," have already proved their agility and a third, "E," is doing its best.

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Our popular padre has passed the Higher Standard Examination in Persian according to the latest command orders to hand.

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We notice with pleasure that there seems to be a growing tendency on the part of the War Office authorities to foster sentiment by restoring to regiments their ancient facings, and in some cases even their ancient titles. We suffered no injustice on the introduction of the territorial system as far as facings were concerned, as the Scottish Royal Yellow was always our regimental colour. Is it possible that the time may yet be not far off when we may claim our old numerical title and our old recruiting ground, and be the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders again in name as well as in sentiment!

* * * * *

Chaubattia is now in the thick of its worst weather and wears a melancholy and bedraggled appearance. The "rain it raineth every day"—more or less. There are a few occasional spells of comparatively clear sky at tennis and badminton time, and we endeavour to make the most of them.

By the way, the corporals have started badminton, and seem to enjoy themselves mightily every evening when the weather permits of their playing.

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Two "Smokers" in one week! Surely a record for Chaubattia. On Tuesday evening, 27th June, the Corporals were at home to our W. O.'s and Sergeants, and to a host of friends from the standing camp. We all enjoyed ourselves thoroughly, the enthusiastic committee looking after the arrangements doing their work in fine style. The songs were above the average, and the Sergeant Major's speech, acknowledging the hearty reception accorded to himself and his brother W. O.'s and the Sergeants, very appropriate to the occasion. We regret we were unable to obtain a programme of the songs.

* * * * *

We were more fortunate with regard to the Sergeants' "Smoker" given on the following evening, and enclose a programme of what was a really first-rate entertainment, certainly the best we have had in the mess. Captain Darroch's contributions were very heartily received, and of the many other good things Color-Sergeant Ditcham's "Powder Monkey" and Sergeant Peggie's "Admiral's Broom" were the best.

PART I.

1. *Song* ... "The Song that reached my Heart." Ar.-Sgt. HOLDEN.
2. *Song* ... ... "Scenes that are brightest." Sgt. CRAWFORD.
3. *Song* ... ... "The Song of the Sword." Sgt.-Dr. WALSH.
4. *Song* ... . "Private Tommy Atkins." Sgt. CLARKE.
5. *Banjo Solo* ... . 'Lorne." S. Sgt. EVANS, M. W. D.
6. *Song* ... ... "Sailing." Schoolmaster GOVER.
7. *Song* ... ... "Simon the Cellarer." Lt. VILLIERS STUART.
8. *Song* .. .. "The Admiral's Broom." Bd.-Sgt. PEGGIE.
9. *Song* ... ... "Comic." Capt. DARROCH.
10. *Duet* ... ... "The Convent Bells." Bd.-Sgt PEGGIE and Sgt. Dr. WALSH.
11. *Song* ... ... "The Powder Monkey." Cr. Sgt. DITCHAM.
12. *Song* ... ... "Beauty's Eyes." Bandmaster DAVIES.
13. *Song* ... ... "Yes, Let me like a Soldier fall." Lieut. GILLATT.

PART II.

1. *Song* ... "There is a flower that bloometh.' Conductor JONES.
2. *Song* ... ... "Nelson." Sgt. CRAWFORD.
3. *Song* ... ... "The Hazel Dell." Sgt. CLARKE.
4. *Quartette* ... ... "Old Folks at Home." Bandmaster DAVIES, Sgt. CLARKE, Bd.-Sgt. PEGGIE S. D. WALSH.
5. *Song* ... ... "Eileen Alannah.' Schoolmaster GOVER.
6. *Banjo Solo* ... ... "Sutherland.' S. Sgt. EVANS.
7. *Song* ... ... "Say Au Revoir." Ar.-Sgt. HOLDEN.
8. *Song* ... ... "Afton Water." Bd.-Sgt. PEGGIE.
9. *Bassoon Solo* ... ... "The Bay of Biscay." Sgt.-Dr. WALSH.
10. *Song* ... ... "To Anthea." Lieut. GILLATT.
11. *Song* ... ... "The Lost Chord." Sgt.-Dr. WALSH.
12. *Song* ... ... "Comic." Capt. DARROCH.
13. *Song* ... ... "Just a Song at Twilight." Cr.-Sgt. DITCHAM.
14. *Song* ... ... "Philadelphia." Sergt. STUBBS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

* * * * *

This year's Military Tournament at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, must claim more than a passing notice from us. Of the many interesting and original items at this year's show none seem to have given more satisfaction to the huge crowd that daily thronged the building than the grand historic pageant illustrating four periods of British Military History. In this, according to the latest illustrated and other papers to hand, knights of the fifteenth century in complete armour, jostle, in quite a friendly manner, with the heroes of the gallant charge at Omdurman in their serviceable khaki kit, whilst pikemen and halberdiers in the picturesque costume of the era of "Good Queen Bess" fraternise with the tropically equipped troops of the Mutiny campaign. To us pictures of the pageant cannot but be most interesting, for foremost in the ranks of the "Lucknow" portion come types of our own gallant corps uniformed in the khaki jacket as then first worn by the regiment and with the quilted bonnet shade, apparently identical with the one worn by us in the Tochi.

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The *Navy and Army Illustrated* of the 3rd June publishes a most excellent group of the detachment of our home battalion masquerading at the hall and attaches the following flattering letter press: "Our next picture is of the old 93rd Foot or Sutherland Highlanders, who fought in the advance with Sir Colin Campbell for the second relief of Lucknow. Touch your hat to them as they pass you in the arena, for they are the only infantry regiment in the service that shares with the cavalry of the Heavy and Light Brigades the honour of inscribing "Balaclava" amidst their long roll of war honours."

"Let 'em *all* come!"

* * * * *

Our 5th Volunteer (Ballachulish) Battalion is also represented at the tournament, the "F" (Glencoe) Company giving a physical drill display.

—:o:—

"Ane o' Oor Ain."

—o—

When first brave Sir Colin
The "thin ane" led on,
They ne'er had been tested,
Nor kent hoo tae staun;
But Sir Colin had een,
An' he saw vera plain,
They could fin he'rt an' muscle,
Gin he foun' the brain;
An' wad follow tae Hell e'en,
Ane o' their ain.

The day it soon cam'
Whan baith maister an' men,
Proved tae the world
The sons frae the Ben,
Whan they stood ten tae ane
On that braid open plain,
Whan Sir Colin said, "Steady"
An' they stood there like stane;
An' earned lastin' glory
Wi' ane o' their ain.

Mony years hae gane by,
For which "Honours" we've nane,
For whan ithers had flesh,
We've aye had the bane,
But I see bricht mornin'
Dawn for us again,
For a Campbell is wi' us,
An' he's ane o' oor ain;
We still hae the he'rt,
We ken he's the brain;
An' better than a' that,
He's ane o' oor ain.

CAEN MOR.

Alphonse, Jean, and Julie.

—o—

IN September last year I was staying in Paris, and had the good fortune to be introduced to a charming French gentleman, Monsieur de B—— by name. He had a place about fifteen miles from the capital, and very kindly invited me to go and spend a few days with him. I accepted with pleasure, and on my host hearing that I was fond of shooting he asked me to bring my gun. I turned up on the day, and was delighted by the beauty of the place, and charmed by the kind reception I received from the wife and daughters of my host. The latter informed me that he had arranged a shooting party to take place two days hence, when three other French gentlemen would with ourselves make up the party to five guns. The woods looked as if they would hold any amount of small game, and I looked forward to a good day's sport The morning of the shoot arrived, and by eleven o'clock the three other guns turned up. The day was lovely, and everything seemed favourable. Then, and not till then, my host informed me that the game on his little place consisted of three hares, and three hares only. This was rather a shock, but I made a suitable and polite reply concealing, I trust, my disappointment and amusement.

The French gentlemen were turned out in the most approved French fashion, each carrying a small fringed game bag, and all wearing boots which struck me as being more fitted for the Bois de Bologne than for a shoot. However, they were as keen as mustard and chatted incessantly. Concerning the hares, my host told me that they had been about his place for some years, and were well known by sight. One was called "Jean," another "Alphonse" and the third "Julie."

He declared that he was of the opinion that no young ones had appeared, because the beautiful Julie could not make up her mind whether to accept Jean or Alphonse as husband! He further said that the best way out of the difficulty was to try to shoot either Jean or Alphonse, when Julie would, doubtless, make the best of a bad job and accept the survivor. Thus you will see the shoot resolved itself into the five guns setting forth to compass the destruction of one hare.

Immediately an animated discussion arose among the Frenchmen as to whether Jean or Alphonse should be the victim. Two were for the destruction of Alphonse and two for that of Jean. Neither party would give way, each advancing argument after argument why his favourite hare should be spared. On being appealed to, I suggested the usual British way of settling a small difficulty, namely tossing up, and this was agreed to, and it was settled that if

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heads turned up Jean was to be the victim, and if tails Alphonse. I spun, and heads turned up, so the luckless Jean was doomed. My host, however, did not seem much distressed, and told me in confidence that it was highly improbable that Jean would be shot. He said that Jean had been fired at many times during the past year, but that he had never been even wounded! On arriving at the favourite cover of the hares we proceeded to walk it up in line. In a few minutes I saw a hare stealing away about thirty yards off, and was just going to fire when I heard the agonized voice of my host, "Don't fire, please, don't fire; that is my poor Alphonse." Of course I did not fire and Alphonse cantered slowly away. We proceeded on our hunt after Jean, but an hour's tramp through several likely covers produced no result. So we adjourned for lunch, during which the habits good and bad of the three hares were thoroughly discussed. "Jean" was declared to be a very cunning and wide-awake hare, while his fleetness of foot apparently surpassed that of all other hares in France.

After lunch we continued our search, and actually put up another hare; again it was quite close to me, and sat up and looked at me before cantering slowly down a ride. Again I was stopped in the act of pulling the trigger by cries of "It is my beautiful 'Julie' please do not hurt her." So Julie, taking her time, also disappeared from view.

Still no sign of the cunning Jean, and we had actually tried all the likely places and were going home when while crossing a field, I spotted a hare in its form; by this time I had began to think that "Jean" was a myth, and even when the hare got up did not offer to fire, but was aroused by a Babel of voices, "Shoot, sir, oh shoot quickly, it is that rascal Jean." Poor Jean was going at a slow canter within forty yards; and I fired and killed him as dead as mutton. Never shall I forget the excitement; my friends crowded round me and the defunct Jean; they each separately pressed my hand, congratulating me warmly on the superlative excellence of the shot. Jean was admired, and stroked gently as if he was a cat, and finally his legs tied carefully together, and he was slung over the gun barrel of my host. (Really Jean was very fat, large, half tame, and probably old.)

In triumphal procession we now wended our way back to the chateau, taking care to pass through a small village that people might see and wonder. And they did wonder: on all sides we heard remarks of, "It is Jean; Jean is dead at last; the cunning Jean is defeated at last and soon."

That night at dinner we drank to the dear departed Jean, to my wonderful prowess as a marksman, and to a happy issue of the marriage between the fair Julie and Alphonse. W. J.

Football Match.

—o—

93RD *versus* STANDING CAMP.

A GOOD deal of interest was centred in the above match which was played at Chaubattia on the 9th instant. We were all anxious to see how our side would shape under the new management and with the important changes that have been made in the constitution of the team.

The Standing Camp team, we understand, was principally composed of men of the Border Regiment; the 93rd lined up as follows:—

MAYWOOD,
WALLACE, BAKER (CAPT.),
MULHOLLAND, McGOWAN, HUDGHTON
MACKENZIE, MACAULAY, WATSON, LEITCH, WILSON.

The game turned out to be a little one-sided, the Standing Camp representatives apparently suffering from two disadvantages—lack of sufficient training and of experience of one another's play. Their goal-keeper was, however, in splendid form, and was frequently applauded for the very fine manner in which, time and again, he defended his goal. Maywood had no chances of proving his abilities as a goal-keeper, our back and half-back divisions, notably Baker and Hudghton, playing a good sound game throughout. Very rarely indeed did our opponents get past them and become dangerous in front of goal.

Our forwards were at times disappointing in their play. The glaring fault was again defective shooting, miserably so, on two occasions, when, with the goal completely at their mercy, two of them played so indifferently as to call forth the derisive cheers of the onlookers. We ought to have won by a margin of at least 4 goals. Mackenzie and Leitch were the best of our front division.

The second was much the better half, and it was during this part of the game that the two goals by which we won were obtained. Macaulay scored the first, and Watson, with a fine bit of play, the second. The Standing Camp Team did not score.

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Another Gaff.

—o—

THE most successful concert we have had in Chaubattia this year took place on Wednesday, the 14th instant. The programme was replete with items of interest. Everything went with a swing, reflecting great credit on Mr. Davies and those associated with him in the work of preparation, which extended only over a few days. The "lion" of the evening was Private

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Burns, who "cam' to woo" the audience with no less than three new Scotch "comics," all excellent and to the popular taste. It is perhaps superfluous to say that Captain Darroch's contributions of old favourites were thoroughly appreciated and applauded. The boxing competition was a highly entertaining novelty, particularly the 3rd round. A funny man at the back dubbed the combatants "The Light weight Champion of India" *versus* "The Cutlet King." The "Cutlet King" had somewhat the best of the encounter, a pleasing result which may possibly be regarded as a testimony to the excellence of the culinary arrangements of the institution over which his popular Pa so efficiently presides.

It was a pity that the club swinging was not the complete success it might have been owing to the smallness of the stage, but it was nevertheless a very pretty exhibition. The performers were Sergeant Reid, Lance-Corporal Montgomery, Private Currie, Private Ryan, Private McKenzie, and Boy Archie Campbell. Of the "sentimental" singers, Private Cairns and Bandsman Benson were, as usual, well to the fore, their best efforts being "Good-bye, Sweetheart, Good-bye" and "The Bugler," respectively. We did not much care for Private Ritchie's interpretation of the "Banks of Allan Water," but we *did* appreciate his humorous skit on the "Degeneration of men," Bandsman McLachlan gave a fine rendering of the "Lost Chord" as a cornet solo with an harmonium accompaniment by Mr. Davies, and the Banjo duets by Staff Sergeant Evans and Bandsman Benson were also pleasing items.

Of the dances, the best was the "Highland Fling" by Private Anderson.

PROGRAMME OF CONCERT HELD AT CHAUBATTIA ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH JUNE.

PART I.

1. *Overture* ... ... "Band."
2. *Song* "Has your Mither ony mair like you." (Encore—"That is Love" parody) Private MAVER, W. K. Regt.
3. *Song* ... ... "Afton Water." Sergeant MATTHEW.
4. *Song* ... ... "Yorkshire Lad." Private CAIRNS.
5. *Banjo Duet* Staff Sergeant EVANS, M.W.D., and Bandsman Benson.
6. *Song* ... ... "As your Hair grows whiter." Bandsman BENSON.
7. *Song* ... ... "Cruiskeen Lawn." SCHOOLMASTER GOVER.
8. *Boxing Competition* ... ... Boys ERIC DUNNE and Geo. MITCHELL.
9. *Cornet Solo* ... ... "Lost Chord." Bandsman MCLACHLAN.
10. *Comic Song* "Mother-in-law" (Encore "Killaloe)." Capt. DARROCH.
11. *Comic Song* ... ... "Cornelius Burke." Lt. VILLIERS-STUART.
12. *Song* ... "On the Banks of Allan Water" (Encore Humorous Skit) "The Degeneration of Man." Private RITCHIE.
13. *Song* ... "My Lad's a Sailor" (Encore—Johnny's Better Half)." Private BURNS.

PART II.

1. *Waltz* ... ... Band.
2. *Song* ... ... "Scotland Yet." Sergeant MATTHEW.
3. *Scotch Song* ... ... "Maggie McIndoe." Private BURNS.
4. *Club swinging* ... ... Set of Six.
5. *Song* ... ... "Daddy." BANDMASTER DAVIES.
6. *Song* ... ... "Scenes that are brightest." Sergeant CRAWFORD.
7. *Hornpipe* ... ... Private BISLAND.
8. *Song* ... ... "Sailing." SCHOOLMASTER GOVER.
9. *Song and Dance* ... ... Private BURNS.
10. *Highland Fling* ... ... Private ANDERSON.
11. *Song* ... ... "The Bugler." Bandsman BENSON.
12. *Bassoon Solo* ... ...Sergeant Drummer WALSH.
13. *Comic Song* ... ... "Jean." Captain DARROCH.
14. *Song* ... ... "Good-bye, Sweetheart." Private CAIRNS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

—:o:—

"On Marching."

—o—

MUCH has been said and written on "how best to train soldiers to make the most of their marching powers," says the *Pioneer* in a recent article. "The latest contribution to the literature on this subject," continues the same paper, "is an article by Major B. M. Skinner, R. A. M. C., in the current number of the *Journal of the United Service Institution of India* entitled 'On Marching.' Major Skinner will be remembered by a large number of the battalion who were in the Tochi, so a reproduction of what he has to say on this ever-important question, supplemented by a few of our own ideas on the subject, may not be out of place or prove uninteresting. Most of what Major Skinner has said on marching has been written before, and merely impresses the necessity for constant practice, with easy fitting clothing and boots. Highland-shoes are not approved of as not wearing well, and allowing gravel to work up beneath the spats. This may be so, but were a more serviceable and easily adjusted leg covering than hose and gaiter introduced for field service the shoe might remain. The most interesting part of Major Skinner's article, perhaps because it agrees to a certain extent with our ideas on the subject, is that devoted to the feeding and drinking of the fight-

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ing or marching man. The writer insists upon the importance of regular hours for feeding, and the folly of allowing men to march upon empty stomachs. Theoretically this is perfectly right, but practically there does not seem to be a great advantage in swallowing frequently badly cooked, and therefore indigestible, food in the quickest possible time, for this is what the order 'the troops will breakfast before marching' usually results in. It is, of course, a most difficult thing to arrange for the comfortable feeding of the men when the duties of packing and preparing for a march have to be attended to, but it is also a fact that until men, some men at any rate, can be allowed to have their food in peace and without necessarily having to bolt it, there will be continual falling out. We often in the Tochi remember having seen strong healthy men, but a few miles on a march, after having consumed a particularly hearty breakfast in a phenomenally short space of time, declare that they couldn't possibly keep up with the column, and after being allowed to fall out would be quite fit again in perhaps an hour's time. This temporary indisposition could not possibly have been caused by anything else but by that particularly heavy and hurriedly swallowed breakfast partaken of before marching.

The remarks about drinking are undeniable. 'Most soldiers," says Major Skinner, "after three or four miles of a march have commenced, and sometimes even emptied, their water bottles; they refill at the first opportunity, and from the nearest source, whether from bhisties' mussak, or roadside puddle; and by the time half the march is over, their stomachs are filled with water; the distension oppresses their breathing and the heart's action, and one by one they fall out feeling 'done up.' So much is this the case that the writer has come to look upon the water bottle as used by most soldiers as a serious impediment, and believes that if the private could be trained to keep his supply of water or cold tea till he reached 'half road,' his marching powers would be much enhanced." Excessive drinking on the march is, we are firmly convinced, merely a habit; the Cameron Highlanders, who were trained in the late Soudan campaign to drink at but stated intervals, being an instance of the advantages of restraint. We know of men who during the trying march from Kushalgarh to Bannu in the summer of 1897 limited themselves to taking but an occasional sip at their water-bottles through the small vent hole in the stopper, at every third or fourth mile, and who frequently arrived in camp with water still in their water-bottles, whilst many other cases of similar abstinence could be quoted. In our opinion a man drinks much too freely—we do not allude to intoxicating liquors—even in cantonments, so much so that when it comes to performing thirst aggravating duties under disadvantageous circumstances he is either enervated by the impossibility of satisfying his insatiable craving or by too freely indulging it.

Concluding its review of Major Skinner's article the *Pioneer* seemingly sensibly suggests that the best way of keeping men in condition is to encourage games and outdoor pursuits as much as possible, as athletes are said to be "in a very small minority, the majority of men being quite content to see others win the laurels which they claim to share." Unfortunately the *Pioneer's* argument cannot be said to be borne out by experience, for it is an undeniable fact that the many little detachments despatched from time to time "down the line" from the advanced camp of the late Tochi Field Force at Sheranni could have competed most favourably, had athletic contests been instituted, with those of the troops remaining at head-quarters.

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"One of the Many."

—o—

Not his to die a soldier's death
With a wall of fire before him,
Not his to yield his final breath
With squadrons dashing o'er him,
Not his to fall in the foremost file,
Charging the heights in British style;
But his to await grim Death's command
On an hospital bed, his life's dream dead,
In a merciless clime, in a foreign land.

He thought of love's lost fond caress
And the bitter pain of parting;
He thought of that farewell breeze-borne kiss
As the troopship fair was starting;
He thought of a mother's careworn face,
He thought of her blessing and last embrace;
But now he awaits grim Death's command
To cross the bar, on a voyage far,
O'er a silent sea to an unknown land.

A comrade there in duty bound
His last few wants attended;
He waited to notice action or sound
That would tell his watch had ended.
The pale lips moved, and love notes clear
Tell on the watcher's listening ear—
"Mother, good bye," and beyond all time,
His soul had fled to the silent dead,
Beyond the grave to that unknown clime.

Honour them well that yield their life
'Midst battle's awful din;
Honour them well who in the strife
Die hard for Queen and kin.
But honour the thousands who silently fall,
They, too, answer duty's brazen call,
They are the price of an empire grand,
But forgotten they lie 'neath a foreign sky,
On hill and plain in a heathen land.

L. FERGUSON.

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"Under the Punkah."

—o—

BEING NOTES OF THE RIGHT WING AT SHAHJAHANPUR.

"Under the punkah" indeed! During the latter part of June Shahjahanpur has found a greatcoat almost as necessary. The sky during the early part of the month was frequently overcast, and there were, at intervals, many refreshing showers, foretelling the somewhat early advent of the monsoon. About the 15th these showers had commenced to assume somewhat respectable dimensions, and during the last week of June an entire day with hardly the glimpse of a gleam of sunshine was not at all uncommon.

With the weather so unsettled there is naturally little to note in the way of wing news. On Saturday, the 10th, there were more Aquatic Sports, the only really seasonable species of amusement: the river Kanaut, running to the East of cantonments, this time being the scene of the contests. The commanding officer had arranged for some substantial pecuniary benefits accruing to the winners of the races, so competition was most keen. Time would not admit of more than four events being decided, these filling in nearly two good hours. The events were:—a Four Hundred and Forty Yards' Race, a Fifty Yards' Race, a Duck and a Tub Race, the latter affording great amusements. Soon after half past five the long distance race, a handicap, commenced; there were only some four entries, and Private Pollock, the favourite, conceded twenty yards. The final lap proved most exciting, the only two swimmers left in contesting every inch of the water, and the result was almost an open question. The "favourite" was, however, given the race, a very close thing, by some six inches.

A somewhat longish wait as breathing time occurred here, and the onlookers were entertained by some exhibition swimming in costume, not on the programme by the way, given by an old "C" Company favourite. A few sporting *kuttas* also added somewhat to the amusement, and prevented time from hanging heavily. The first heats of the Tub Race came now, and it was very funny to see the discomfiture of the energetic paddlers, "Slow but Sure," being the watchword of the successful ones. The "Fifty Yards'" heats were most spirited contests, and left four competitors to contest the final. The Duck Race was short and sweet, the poor "Yuicks" being quickly disposed of. The "Tub" and "Fifty" finals concluded the sports, the latter race being easily won by Lance-Corporal Ure. Captain Robinson distributed the prizes at the end, and although a dust-storm had threatened devastation throughout the land, it considerately changed its course at the last moment, and all were allowed to return safely to their homes.

The following were the winners of the various events:—

FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY YARDS.

Private Pollock, "D" Company	1
„ Aitken, "D" „	2

TUB RACE.
(*First Heat*).

Lce.-Corporal Ure, "B" Company	1
Private Atherton, "B" „	2

(*Second Heat*).

Private Peacock, "D" Company	1
„ Armour, "A" „	2

FIFTY YARDS' RACE.
(*First Heat*).

Private Anderson, "C" Company	1
„ Wright „	2

(*Second Heat*).

Lce.-Corporal Ure	1
Private Campbell, "D" Company	2

TUB RACE.
(*Final Heat*).

Private Armour	1
„ Atherton	2
Lce-Corporal Ure „	3

FIFTY YARDS' RACE.
(*Final Heat*).

Lce.-Corporal Ure	1
Private Anderson	2

The above and a few cricket matches make up nearly all the news possible to be obtained from what might almost be called "Sleepy Shahjahanpur."

The signallers and a party of casuals have fired the annual course of musketry during the month, "C" Company have finished and "A" Company, the last, have commenced their field training, so a full wing parade will soon be a possibility.

CRICKET AT SHAHJAHANPUR.

The following friendly inter-company match have been played during the month of June. During the earlier part of the month the closeness of the late afternoons and evenings was greatly against the display of much energy, and the keenness with which the many games have been entered into proves the fitness of the plain detachment. Since the rains have broken the condition of the ground, added to the clerk of the weather's inconsiderate behaviour, has prevented many matches:—

"*A*" *v.* "*B*" *Company.*—Played on 5th ultimo, "B" winning by 50 runs and five wickets. Scores:—"*A*" *Company*, 33 (Private Hunter, not out, 10); "*B*" *Company*, 83, for five wickets (Private Atherton, not out, 43; Stevenson, 15; Sergeant Durman, 13).

"*B*" *v.* "*C*" *Company.*—Played on the 6th ultimo, "B" who had a poor side losing ignominiously. Scores:—"*B*" *Company*, 29 (Private Mossman, 12); "*C*" *Company*, 40 (Private Gibson, 13).

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"*A*" v. "*C*" *Company*.—Played on the 8th. Scores :—"*A*" *Company*, 40 (Private McEwan, 12); "*C*" *Company*, 60 (Private Kennedy, 17).

"*B*" v. "*D*" *Company*.—Played on the 13th. Scores :—"*B*" *Company*, 38 (Sergeant Durman, 19); "*D*" *Company*, 72 (Private Connell, 20).

"*B*" v. "*C*" *Company*.—Played on the 16th. Scores :—"*B*" *Company*, 97 (Private Stevenson, 48); "*C*" *Company*, 40 (Corporal Kelly, not out, 12).

"*A*" v. "*D*" *Company*.—Played on the 17th. Scores :—"*A*" *Company*, 42 (Private Sheridan 10); "*D*" *Company*, 76 (Sergeant Daniel, 32).

"*D*" *Company* v. *Corporals*.—Played on the 19th ultimo, the non-commissioned officers although on their own ground being heavily defeated. Scores :—*Corporals*, 38 (Lce-Corporal A. Wilson, 16); "*D*" *Company*, 111. (Sergeant Daniel not out, 55).

"*B*" v. "*D*" *Company*.—Played on the 20th. Scores :—"*B*" *Company*, 46 (Private Ewing 15); "*D*" *Company*, 41 (Private Brady, 9; Allan, 9).

The return match played on the following day again resulted in a win for "B." Scores :—"*D*" *Company*, 37 (Sergeant Daniel, 21).

"*B*" *Company*.—42 for 5 wickets (Private Stevenson, 13).

"*A*" v. "*D*" *Company*.—Played on the 27th and 28th. Scores :—"*A*" *Company*, 50 (Lance-Corporal Rafferty, 22) and 26 (Private McEwan, 8); "*D*" *Company*, 78 and 54 (Sergeant Daniel not out, 49, and 15).

A Wing Team v. Muhammadan C. C.—Played on the 14th ultimo, the Wing chiefly, owing to the bowling of Private Russell, who took 8 wickets, 7 clean bowled, for a very few runs.

Scores :—*Muhammadan* C. C. 31; *Wing Team*, 71 for 7 wickets (2nd Lieutenant J. Kennedy, 11, Sergeant Daniel 11; Sergeant Stonor, not out, 11).

———: o :———

Shahjahanpur Temperance Topics.

I. O. G. T.

PRIDE OF SUTHERLAND LODGE No. 112.

THE above Lodge held a social in their room at the Matty Barracks on the 28th May in commemoration of the "Day we went tae Tochi O." All interested in the Temperance cause were cordially invited, a special invitation having been extended towards our sister order, "Excelsior Tent" I. O R. A large number of members and friends were present. Bro. Coyle, Chief Templar, presided. Immediately after tea a recess was granted for a short period to allow for the necessary arrangements being made for the concert, which commenced at 8-15 P.M. There was an excellent turn out of brothers and friends, including several civilians. The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Blackstock, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Parker, Miss Gordon and the Rev. Mr. Messmore being present. The Chairman opened with a few well chosen remarks, after which an excellent programme was gone through. Short addresses were given by the Rev. Mr. Messmore, the Rev. Mr. Parker and the Rev. Mr. Blackstock. Given below are the principal items on the programme :—

Introductory Remarks, "The Chair."

Song	... "Donnachie Dee" ...	Friend	HANLON.
Recitation	... Battle of Regillus ...	Bro.	BRACKEN.
Song	... Sailing Merrily Home	Friend	McGREGOR.
„	... On the Banks of the Clyde.	Bro.	GREENLAND.
„	... A British Man of War	„	HARPER.
Speech	. Good of Order ..	„	WARD.
Song	... Nora	,	TAWSE.
Recitation	... "God made the Sun"	Juvenile Friends JACKSON and MITCHELL.	
Song	... Jamie Foyers	Bro.	DAVIE.
Speech	... ...	...Rev. Mr.	MESSMORE.
„	... ...	„	PARKER.
Song	... "Afton Water" ...	Friend	LAPSLEY.
„	... The Ship I Love ...	„	BRISLAND.
„	... "Star of Rabbie Burns"	Bro.	SHARP.
Speech	... ...	Rev. Mr.	BLACKSTOCK.
Song	... The Irish Brigade ...		
Reading	... "Intoxicating Liquors as a beverage."	Friend	LANG.
Song	... Soldiers of the Queen ..	Bro.	STEWART.
Recitation	... How I won my Victoria Cross.	Friend	JOHNSTONE
Song	... Kathleen	Bro.	TAWSE.
Parody	... Two Little Girls in Blue	Friend	McGREGOR.
Speech	... Good of Order	Bro.	RANKEN.
Song	... The Rose of Tralee ...	Friend	LAPSLEY.
„	... A Private Soldier ..	Bro.	HARPER.
„	... Mary of Argyll ...	Friend	WILKIE.
„	... Be True, My Love ...	Bro.	RANKEN.
Parody	... Whistle o'er the lave o't	Friend	FINLAYSON.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

I am pleased to report a steady increase in membership, also, very few violations, which is indeed very encouraging, and serves to show that the brothers fully intend to remain true to their obligation.

The item on our programme for 31st May was "Readings from Temperance Papers." The brothers contributed some very interesting and instructive readings towards the evening's programme, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

On the 14th ultimo there was a "Love Letter Competition," but we obtained but few entries, considering the amount of talent possessed by many of the brothers in this line of the business. Brother Rastall gained first prize for his letter, which was an excellent one, and seemed to suggest that he was no novice in the art. From information received from our Branch Lodge at Chaubattia, we learn that they are also progressing very rapidly; there having been no less than 30 initiations since their arrival in the hills.

J. L.

I. O. R.

EXCELSIOR (BRANCH) TENT," No. 190 I. O. R. SHAHJEHANPUR.

The officers of the above branch tent entertained the members on the 1st June, to a most successful tea and concert, which was held in the tent room, at the Matty Barracks.

The brothers, to the number of 22, with a few friends, sat down to tea. Much credit is due to Brothers Devlin and Lapsley for the able manner in which they catered.

After tea a programme was arranged and was excellently carried out under the presidency of Brother Coleman, C. R. The following are the principal items which the programme contained :—

"The Chairman"

Bro. HANLON	... *Song*		...	"Kate O'Brien."
„ „	...		*Encore*	..."Port Dundas Canal.'
„ GILLETLY	... *Song*		...	The Coster's Siser.'
„ „	...		*Encore*	... Down the Road.
„ COLEMAN	... *Song*		...	When Other Lips.
„ „	...		*Encore*	... The Old Brigade.
„ MONTGOMERY	*Song*		...	Trafulgar's Bay.
„ LAPSLEY	... *Song*		...	"Afton Water."
„ „			*Encore*	The Anchor's weighed.

INTERVAL.

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Bro. T. Dale	... *Song*	...	A Soldier's Letter.
„ Ure	... *Song*	...	Sweetheart May.
„ Thomas	... *Song*	...	Across the Bridge.
„ „	...	*Encore* ...	For Me.
„ Mossman	... *Song*	...	I'm His Gaffer.
„ „	...	*Encore* ...	I Live Underneath.
Sister Fogg	... *Song*	...	Bright Sunny Day.
„ „	...	*Encore* ...	No One Cares for Me.
Bro. Rastall	... *Speech.*	„	
„ Dale	... *Song*	„ ...	That is Love.
„ „	...	*Encore* ...	Little Sister's gone to Sleep.
„ Maskell	*Song*	...	A British Soldier's Grave.
„ „	*Speech* (Benefits derived from Total Abstinence.)		

All officers and members.—"God Save the Queen."

From the programme which I give above, your many readers may judge how pleasant and profitable an evening was enjoyed. It was brought to a successful finish at 11 P. M.

Since my last report the membership has been steadily increasing. We owe our success greatly to the many enjoyable evenings which have been spent in the Tent room this past few months, as well as real interest in the Total Abstinence cause, which is being shown daily, by more than one of our new members. On the 14th instant, there was an "Essay Competition" held under the auspices of the above branch in the Tent Rooms. Shahjehanpur, the essay which gained first prize, reflects much credit on the writer, Bro. J. Lang, for it shows that the author fully understood the subject on which he wrote.

—:o:—

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

That that monsoon has broken.
That it broke wi' a vengance.
That it broke thé danger flag ower the huts.
That it's gettin' awfu' smairt this wee while.
That it can jump the cuddy gran' man.
That the Sairgents' Ball wis a great affair.
That the clerk o' the weather maun hae had an invectation.
That the "Smoker" wis as guid.
That there wis several intervals.
That the langest ane is no owre yet.
That a guid many dugs wis lost.
That "still" we sit like birds in the wilderness.
That the Corporals broke oot this year.
That they had a Tochi com-com-com (hic) as weel as Sairgents.
That its heid is gettin' sair attendin' a thae "Gaffs" an sic like thin's.
That it disna' mind it tho'.
That it's gettin' in tae anither war fever for the Transval.

What its cousin at Shahjahanpur says:—
That Neel Ghai hae no' yet been domesticated at Shahjahanpur.
That the auld regiment is bein' well represented at the Agricultural Hall, Islington.
That "waukin" is apparently a maist popular exercise.
That the X rays hae made its appearance frae under trees.
That it also appeared frae a "compound."
That breakin' records dinna' always tak' a trick.
That the 222 wis won hands down.
That it couldna' guess the lucky winner.
That it believes it went tae that great sportin company "B" tho'.
That it's no everybuidy gets twa, three Sairgents for an escort.
That uneasy lies the heid that wears a croon.

—:o:—

Shahjahanpur.

—o—

[*Shah Jahan, i.e.*, King of the World; the name of a Great Mogul. *Pur*, a city, town or village.—*Hindustáni Dictionary.*]

IN the reign of the Mogul Emperor Shah Jahan, just over two-and-a-half centuries ago, some Hindu freebooters had the temerity to attack and plunder a Musalman caravan which was on its way from Delhi to Kanauj. The chief sufferers from this act of depredation were two brothers, Patháns, vassals of the Emperor, one of whom receiving the imperial permission to punish the plunderers, marched with an army to the scene of the outrage to exact reparation. The threatened Hindus stood upon the defensive near their stronghold of Rai or Noner Khera, and so stubborn a fight ensued that eleven hundred of the enemy are said to have fallen in the action; the Hindus were totally defeated however, and in the flight that followed their defeat the victorious Musalmans massacred them indiscriminately, many thousands irrespective of age or sex being said to have perished by the sword.

This sanguinary engagement took place near Chinaur, a village situated to the north-west of the present cantonment, in the year 1647, and is still commemorated by a fair known as the "Chinaur-ka-mela," held just after the festivals of th 'Id.

The victorious Pathan general, whose name was Diler Khan, after thus avenging himself for the loss he and his brother had sustained, announced the result of his undertaking to the Emperor and had the territory gained bestowed upon him with the command to build a fort for its protection. Diler Khan selected for this fort a site at Rai Khera just above the confluence of the Garra and Kanaut rivers, and on about the spot where the former Hindu possessors are said to have had their stronghold, and around this fort the present city of Shahjahanpur has gradually grown up. As a nucleus Diler Khan caused two wards to be built; these became known as Diler

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Ganj and Bahadur Ganj respectively, the former after its founder, and the latter after his brother, and fellow-sufferer, from Hindu depredation, Bahadur Khan, at this time upon an expedition beyond the Khaibar.

To colonise his new settlement, Diler Khan called in the help of this brother, and Bahadur Khan brought down with him from far off Afghanistan a large body of trans-frontier tribesmen, no doubt but too pleased to abandon their bare and unproductive hills for the fertile country offered them. Tribe by tribe these Afghan colonists are said to have built for themselves separate wards near Diler Khan's fort, and to the present day such names as Afridi, Chamkanni, Mohmund, Mahommadzai, Wafazai, Báqarzai and Mulla Khel, names by which some of the city districts are still known, testify to the northern origin of the settlers.

Although it may be seen by the foregoing that Shahjahanpur under its present name is able to boast of no great antiquity, the present district, many centuries before the Christian era is supposed to have formed, and there seems to be little doubt by its geographical position, but that it did form part of the semi-mythical kingdom of Ayodhya, the modern Oudh. The earliest historical mention of this part of the country however does not go back to an earlier period than the seventh century of the Christian era, when it was the stronghold of Buddhism, and appears to have been included in a large district known as Ahichhatra. Following this period, a period of early civilisation, a reaction seems to have taken place, and the country, overrun and devastated by so-called aboriginal non-Aryan races, is proved to have lapsed into barbarism. Then occurred many successive invasions from the south and west by various Rajput tribes who making permanent settlements gradually subjected or expelled the original inhabitants.

During this Rajput ascendancy the country appears to have been called Katehr, from the nature of the soil or after one of the leading Rajput tribes (historians disagree in this particular), but in the reign of the Emperor Akbar the particular part now comprising Shahjahanpur was known as Gola, or Kant-'e-Gola—two names still existent in the neighbourhood, though they are now borne by but small villages. The petty Rajas and leading Thakur families to be found in the Shahjahanpur district at the present day are the descendants of these Rajput invaders, who, for many centuries, in addition to their internal dissensions, were compelled to keep up a constant warfare with the over-increasing Musalman power without. Still, although the land was continually subject to incursions and ravages by the fierce hordes that repeatedly swept down from the north-west, frequently remaining for years perhaps but a desolate waste and jungle, it never admitted any permanent Musalman conquest until the final overthrow of Rajput independence by the Pathan hordes marshalled under the banners of Diler and Bahadur Khan.

Having thus again arrived at the period of the founding of the present city and the adoption of the present name—though there is some doubt as to when the place first became generally known as Shahjahanpur, some historians asserting not until the reign of one of Shah Jahan's degenerate successors in the beginning of the eighteenth century—the history of the country, until the acquisition of Rohilkhand by the British, need be but roughly sketched.

Deriving its new name from its Afghan settlers, who, year by year, were reinforced by additional influxes from the north-west, Rohilkhand, the country of the Rohillas, the name by which the Afghans, from the mountainous country of their origin were at this time known, became an almost independent state and a menace to its neighbours—particularly Oudh. A large part of the Shahjahanpur district however owned but a nominal allegiance to the Rohillas. The north apparently, under Thakur Chiefs, maintained a state of semi-independence, while the sympathies of the Shahjahanpur Pathans even, it is said, were more with Oudh than with Rohilkhand.

A long struggle between the Rohillas and the Governors of Oudh, when Shahjahanpur, lying as it does on the borders of the two provinces, must have been the debateable ground for the armies of both parties, led to the Rohillas becoming bound to Oudh for a large indemnity. This indemnity eventually brought the Marhattas, to whom it had been guaranteed, upon the scene, and an alliance between the two original contestants, supplemented by aid from the British, was necessary before the Marhattas could be persuaded to quit the country.

The common enemy being disposed of, the ill-feeling between the allies again asserted itself, and the Oudh governor, emboldened by the presence of the force lent him by Warren Hastings, seized the opportunity to attempt to despoil his ancient rival. A battle, in which the Rohillas were totally defeated, accordingly took place at Miranpur Katra, a large village about fifteen miles from Shahjahanpur on the present main road to Bareilly, and the fate of Rohilkhand was decided.

The Oudh rule which followed this victory was not a success and was terminated by the cession of the country to the East India Com-

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pany in 1801—the commencement of a new era in the history of Rohilkhand, and of Shahjahanpur its south-easternmost extremity.

From 1801 until the sepoy outbreak of 1857 there is little to chronicle. It took many years of British administration to counteract the evils wrought by the Oudh governors' mismanagement and exactions, and famine and freebooting appear to have been rife in the neighbourhood for some two decades or so. Eventually however the benignity of British rule began to bear its well-deserved fruit, when the troubles of the Mutiny once more plunged Rohilkhand into a state of lawlessness and disorder.—*(To be contd.)*

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM LONDON GAZETTE.

Dated 3rd May 1899.

2nd Lieutenant J. B. Gillatt to be Lieutenant, *vice* Johnston Stewart, seconded.

PAID ESTABLISHMENT.

Of Lance-Corporal.—No. 5536, Lance-Corporal J. Boyd, "C" Company, dated 6th June 1899.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years' service:—
No. 3557, Corporal F. Hiscock, "A" Company.
To complete 12 years' service—
No. 3067, Private D. J. Smith, "A" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem:—
"*A*" *Company.*
No. 5225, Pte. W. Hastie. | No. 4989, Pte. T. Sheridan.
"*B*" *Company.*
No. 4780, Pte. J. Hope. | No. 4793, Pte. T. Harrison.
"*F*" *Company.*
No. 4570, Pte. T. Given.
Restored 2d. per diem—
"*G*" *Company.*
No. 4364, Pte. J. Laird. | No. 3851, Pte. R. Smith.
Granted 1d. per diem:—
"*A*" *Company.*
No. 5139, Pte. J. Hendry. | No. 6160, Pte. L. McCarthy.
"*B*" *Company.*
No. 5384, Pte. W. Ralston.
"*E*" *Company.*
No. 3562, Pte. J. McNair.
"*F*" *Company.*
No. 6174, Pte. J. Louden. | No. 6179, Pte. J. Davidson.
"*G*" *Company.*
No. 6145, Lce.-Col. G. McDonald. | No. 4514, Pte. Park.
"*H*" *Company.*
No. 1818, Pte. J. Morrison.
Restored 1d. per diem:—
"*B*" *Company.*
No. 4800, Pte. W. Moran.
"*C*" *Company.*
No. 3856, Pte. P. Crosbie. | No. 5118, Pte. D. Maclean.
„ 5288, „ W. Stewart. | „ 3924, „ J. McMillan.
"*E*" *Company.*
No. 4706, Pte. G. Bain.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

No. 6910 to Sergeant Master Tailor H. Crawford.

WING APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Sergeant-Major.—Color-Sergeant W. Bates, "B" Company.
To be Pay Sergeant, "B" Company.—Sergeant J. Stewart.
To be Drill Corporal.—No. 4526, Corporal W. Watt, "D" Company.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION.

The undermentioned have passed for promotion:—

To Sergeants.

No. 4628, Corporal G. Ballantyne, "E" Company.
„ 4301, „ J. Gilbert, "E" „
„ 4590, „ J. Watson, "F" „
„ 3764, „ J. Adcock, "G" „
„ 5230, „ D. Yardley, "E" „

To Corporal.

No. 4198, Lce.-Corporal J. Ricketts, "F" Company.
„ 5842, „ „ R. Glass, "E" „
„ 4579, „ „ W. Benson, "G" „
„ 5885, „ „ W. Morrison, "G" „
„ 5534, „ „ W. Menzies, "H" „
„ 5841, „ „ J. Brown, "F" „

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted 3rd class certificates:—
No. 6035, Lce.-Cpl. G. Richardson, "H" Company.
„ 3551, „ „ W. Montgomery, "E" „
„ 5725, „ „ W. Brown, "E" „
„ 5378, „ „ C. Campbell, "H" „
„ 5837, „ „ W. Lawrence, "F" „
„ 5697, „ „ P. McDonald, "G" „
„ 5724, Private P. Lamb, "E" „
„ 5321, „ P. Allan, "E" „
„ 6122, „ W. Jack, "E" „
„ 6664, Drummer E. Dunne, "E" „
Granted 2nd class certificates:—
No. 4590, Corporal J. Watson, "F" Company.
„ 6088, Lce.-Cpl. R. Milne, "F" „
„ 6200, „ „ J. Lumsden, "F" „
„ 6145, „ „ A. McDonald, "G" „
„ 5500, „ „ H. Sear, "H" „
„ 5534, „ „ W. Menzies, "H" „
„ 5945, „ „ A. McCrae, "H" „
„ 5251, Private W. Carruthers, "H" „
„ 5944, „ D. Halley, "H" „
„ 3595, „ J. Benson, "E" „
„ 5134, „ R. Lightbody "F" „
„ 5184, „ W. Chapman, "E" „
„ 3975, „ A. Donnelly, "F" „
„ 5667, Lce.-Cpl. A. Goddard, "G" „

"Unfit to be a loafer when 'e's done' is little bit."

KHUDYARD.

Twa Tammies wis on the staff,
Said twa Tammies "We want tae go hame."
The wee wagon wheel tae the big wagon wheel,
Gaed an' reported the same.
Syne there wis queer alterations.
(Tho' I'm no' vera shair if they'll last).—
Noo an Editor sits in the dry goods' store.
An' a piper's been made a gymnast.

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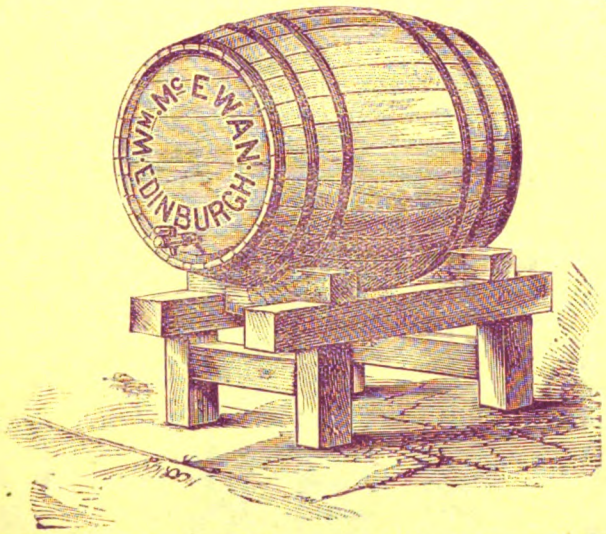

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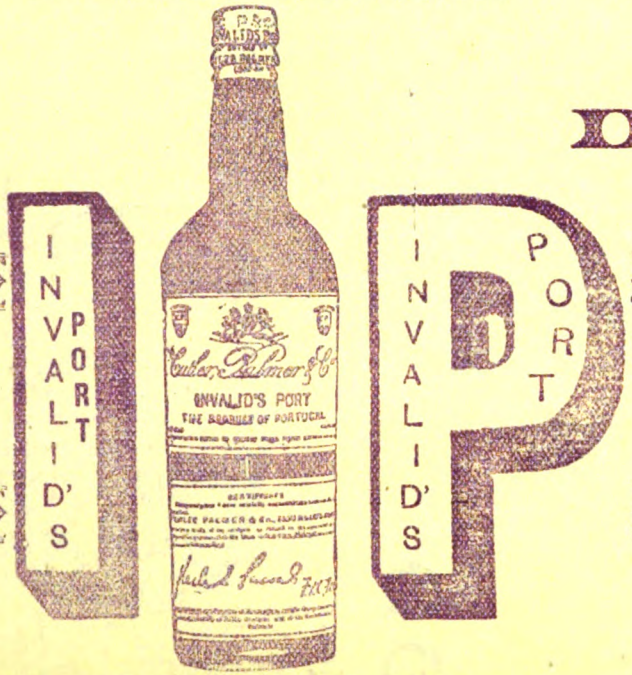

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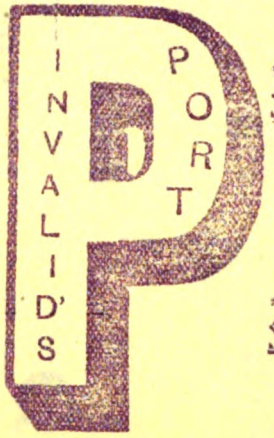

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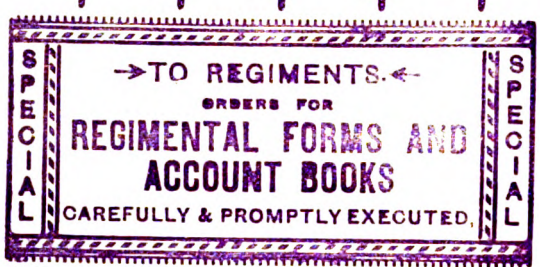

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 4—Vol. V. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—AUGUST 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE monsoon, except for the last few days of the month, has fully kept up its reputation, for it has rained here almost incessantly every twenty-three hours out of the twenty-four. Even when rain has not been falling dispiriting fogs and mists have encompassed Chaubattia, so that out-door amusements have been almost impossible except taken under the cover of a great-coat. The melodious strains, too, of the "Wedding Morn," played upon many varieties of musical instruments by budding amateur musicians, has not an enlivening effect upon damp demoralised nerves.

* * * * *

A party of men of special agility have been selected and are to be trained as scouts with a view to their special employment during the forthcoming hill manœuvres. Their instruction in *khud*-climbing, rapid conveyance of messages, &c., goes on daily, and they will no doubt prove a most valuable acquisition to the mobility of the battalions when the mimic hill warfare starts. Lieutenant A. H. Maclean is in command and has Sergeant Lockie as senior non-commissioned officer with four lance-corporals and thirty-two privates.

* * * * *

Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. Goff left on the 22nd ultimo for Bombay *en route* for home, to assume command of the first battalion. On the previous evening, the 21st, Colonel Goff was the guest of the officers and there was much complimentary speech-making. Our late Commanding Officer sailed from Bombay in the "Egypt" on the 29th July and travels home *viâ* Canada and Japan. We wish, and we feel sure every member of the battalion will wish, both Colonel and Mrs. Goff a most pleasant homeward journey. From Agra we received from him the following :—

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THE EDITOR,
"THIN RED LINE."

SIR,

I wish to express through the medium of the Battalion Paper my adieus to all ranks and to let them know how much I have appreciated their general good behaviour and to acknowledge that I feel it is due to the exertions of every one that the battalion has had such a good report this year.

I am fully aware of the extra extreme difficulty it is to keep smart and energetic in a climate like India, but I think the battalion can show most corps a brilliant example in this respect; football, gymnastics and other games assist in keeping men fit and in good health, and therefore I have always fostered them.

In saying "good-bye" I feel that I am not parting altogether as I now go to the other battalion and shall have under me the men who in future make the 2nd Battalion. I am proud to be the first Commanding Officer who will have had command of both battalions, and I trust that the fact will make the good feeling which now exists between them grow stronger.

G. L. GOFF, LT.-COLONEL.

Agra, 25th July 1899.

* * * * *

The result of the examination of the signallers of the British Army in India has recently appeared, and of the 53 infantry corps in the country our signallers are placed thirteenth. This, taking all things into consideration, is not a bad position; and being somewhat higher than expected, is certainly gratifying.

* * * * *

A capital amateur company (non-commissioned officers and others) paid Chaubattia a visit on the 9th and 10th ultimos. They gave two splendidly successful variety entertainments and were rewarded with crowded houses on both nights.

No programme of either of the performances is unfortunately to hand.

* * * * *

There has been a considerable improvement in the weather during the last week or ten days which has been taken full advantage of. A few football matches and one cricket match have been played, whilst lawn tennis and badminton again flourish.

* * * * *

The recent regulations for marching order when the valise is not worn have been amended and the mess-tin again resumes its former and more comfortable position in the hollow of the back.

* * * * *

There is unfortunately a frightful dearth of writable news this month, with the result that the current "Skirls" have shrunk to infinitesimal proportions. Fortunately a resourceful correspondent at Shahjahanpur has been able to supply several pages of his historical sketch of that place which should tide over this unfortunate season of stagnation, and not prove uninteresting reading.

"We'll hae nane but Heilan' bannets here"

If you're *earnest* in love an' you're crossed,
It's hard tae see thro' the auld saw—
It's better by faur tae hae lo'ed an' lost,
Than ne'er tae hae lo'ed ava."

—:o:—

Sergeants' Shooting Match.

—o—

93RD *versus* STANDING CAMP.

The sergeants of head-quarters visited Deolikhet on Thursday, 13th July, in response to a challenge from the Standing Camp Sergeants' Mess. The weather was very unfavourable and our team must be congratulated upon their victory away from home over such sturdy opponents as the Cameronian, Cornwall and Border Regiment Sergeants proved themselves. A smoking concert followed the "Shoot" and would doubtless have proved even more enjoyable but for the inconsiderate behaviour of the weather baboo (*Anglice*, clerk of the weather). Coming home in the dark over a rough road about five miles in length was hardly a pleasing or profitable *finalé* to an otherwise enjoyable day and made not a few of the wanderers vow that they would "gang nae mair a roving" from Chaubattia—at any rate until the weather proved more propitious. What a night it was! If it did not pour cats and dogs, it rained at least sufficiently to have floated all the Royal Navies in

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the world. A few thoughtful "shots" took lamps with them, but they were of little avail, for the so-called "Hurricanes" were as bashful in the presence of the boisterous Boreas as the ordinary unprotected barrack lamp supplied by a benign Government would have been.

The lightning proved a blessing in disguise and saved many a nasty fall over the *khud;* indeed it was almost impossible to move without a flash to show the way. Everyone had "tats," but they were of little use especially in the latter stages of the road. All eventually reached home fortunately quite safely, but wet to the skin. The following were the performances of the two teams :—

93RD HIGHLANDERS.		STANDING CAMP.	
Sergt. J. Soutar ...	92	Cr.-Sgt. Reynolds (32nd)	91
Qr.-Mr.-Sgt. L. Robertson	82	Sergt. Richardson (26th)	86
Cr.-Sergt. H. Ditcham...	78	„ Rice (55th) ...	81
Sergt. C. Clarke ...	78	„ Gould (55th) ...	75
„ G. Arnott ...	76	Cr.-Sergt. Ennis (55th)	74
Dr.-Mr. J. Walsh ...	73	Sergt. Mortimer (55th)	73
Band-Sergt. A. Peggie...	70	„ Taylor (55th) ...	68
Cr.-Sergt. W. Smith ...	70	Cr.-Sergt. Phillips (26th)	65
Total ...	619	Total ...	613
Counted out.		*Counted out.*	
Sergt. J. Tyndall ...	70	Sgt. Turner (3rd Hussars)	64
Lce.-Sergt. F. Marks ...	68	„ Summerston, „	60

—:o:—

Head-quarter Sports and Pastimes.

—o—

QUOITS.

THERE appears to be a great quoit revival at head-quarters, and a few exciting encounters have come off already, and more are being eagerly discussed; perhaps the fact of the weather being favourable to the mud-moulding profession has something to do with it. The first match of any importance came off between Pte. Brown of "H" Company and Pte. Cullen, "E" Company, 61 up being the game. The match took place on Thursday afternoon, 20th July, on the parade ground, but as the weather was bad there were not so many spectators as there might have been had the weather proved more favourable. Despite this want of outside encouragement so usually associated with a quoiting match, the game was well contested and ended by Brown beating Cullen by 7 points.

SCORES—Pte. Brown 61
„ Cullen 54

A few nights later another match took place between Corpl. Adcock, "G" Company, and Lce.-Corpl. Benson, "G" Company, the latter winning by a few points. The match was rather suddenly arranged, but better attended than the Brown-Cullen match. A good affair is generally scented however when the old "plunger" "Pi," is standing on his all-round merits.

There is a talk about a match between Pte. Comrie and Pte. Bridges, "H" Company, coming off next month, and another between Pte. Brown, "H" Company, and Pte. Chalmers, "E" Company, being decided at about the same time.

SPRINTING.

THERE is some *kubber* of a race arranged for next month between Pte. Johnstone, "C" Company, and Pte. Comrie, "H" Company.

On the subject of racing it was forgotten last month that a trial of speed came off between Pte. Comrie, "H" Company, and Pte. Engleby of the Band. The distance was 120 yards and Comrie won by 3 or 4 yards.

BILLIARDS.

Several billiard matches have taken place of late, the contestants being—

Pte. Hiddles, "H," *v.* Pte. McAuley, "G."

The former won by 9 points in a game of nomination, 100 up.

Corpl. Adcock, "G" *v.* Corpl. Yardley "G," the former winning by 5 points.

Cpl. Adcock *v.* Pte. Hiddles; the latter won very easily by 39 points. Final scores Hiddles 100, Adcock 61.

CRICKET.

BAND *v.* "G" COMPANY.

Neither side was well represented, and very poor batting was displayed, principally owing to want of practice. "G" Company won by 8 wickets.

FOOTBALL.

The following matches have taken place during the month :—

"E" and "F" *v.* "G" and "H" COMPANIES.—"E" and "F" combination won by 3 goals to 2.

"G" *v* "H" COMPANY.—Scores "G" 3 goals, "H" 1 goal.

—:o:—

Head-quarter Temperance News.

A. T. A.

THE usual half-yearly meeting of this branch took place on July 6th. After the minutes and accounts were read, the election of officers and voting for the Association medal took place. The medal has been awarded to Friend Miller, who obtained 28 votes to Corpl. Sutherland's 5, and Corpl. Mahoney's 27.

The following are the officers for the ensuing half-year :—

President, Sergt. J. Mathews.
Vice-President Bandsman J. Burns
Secretary, Bandsman E. Miller.
Committee men.
E Company, Pte. Collins.
F „ „ Seton.
G Company Pte. Allan.
H „ „ Wilson.
Band. „ Reynolds.
Finance Committee.
Corporal Gurney.
Bandsman Burns.
„ Ward.

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Under the Punkah.

—o—

BEING NOTES OF THE RIGHT WING AT SHAHJAHANPUR.

BUT for some three weeks of heavy rain Shahjahanpur would have absolutely nothing to discuss. A "plain" monsoon to the majority of the seasoned members of the Right Wing was something of a novelty, and like most novelties was interesting up to a certain limit. This limit has been reached, however, and the monotony, not to mention discomfort, of so much rain is beginning, to say the least of it, to become oppressive. Fortunately the last week or so, despite the dull uniformity of a leaden sky, has not been very damp and a consequent sporting revival has resulted.

The officers and other members of the Shahjahanpur Club made heroic attempts, even during the most unpropitious weather, to counteract the demoralising effects of Jupiter Pluvius' inconsiderate behaviour. Several football matches between scratch teams of officers and civilians, and the wing upon the home ground, were followed by similar matches on the Club ground, when its members were most generously "at home" to the players. Most of the companies of the wing have in turn also tried their strength with the Club team with varying success.

During the middle of the month, with the weather at perhaps its worst, the return shooting match between the Officers and Sergeants of the wing was attempted. After finishing at the first distance (200 yards) a hasty retreat had to be made to the welcome shelter of the refreshment tent, and no decision as to the merits of the competing teams could be arrived at. The shooting at 200 yards, except in a few cases, was not exceptionally good, and we regretfully admit that in a moment of weakness we consented to deny our readers the pleasure of perusing the scores. We promise, however, in the future never to so far forget our duty to the public as to be guilty of the same mistaken kindness.

A small party of casuals have been exercised in their annual musketry course through the month, and "B," "C" and "A" companies have fired the rounds allotted to the company officers. These rounds were fired in marching order.

A considerable amount of pleasant excitement amongst the non-commissioned officers of the Wing was occasioned by the lessening of qualifying service abroad necessary for claiming to serve at home. A re-action of feeling however has recently set in.

There has been very little cricket during the month, as the ground has seldom been fit to play upon.

Poor old "Jock" is no more! There was probably not a better known pet in the battalion than this little Irish terrier who followed his master so faithfully through the Tochi Expedition, and since the distribution of the medals last year has worn the ribbon attached to his collar with evident pride. During the recent heavy rains he had been very busily employed ratting on the borders of "Loch Pawayan," and he was not above assisting in the demise of a snake. It is thought that he must have been bitten by one of his scaly game, for after a particularly heavy day's *shikar* he developed evident signs of hydrophobia and had to be killed.

———:o:———

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

WHAT its cousin at Shahjahanpur says:—

That rats canna' see when the lichts are oot.

That some o' the Lance Jacks are noo loosin' their e'e sight tae.

That navigation is a popular study.

That there hae been a few heavy seas on lately.

That it hears frae headquarters o'a new design for a helmet badge.

That it believes the Maister Tailor didna' approve o' it.

That thae soomin' parades hae been as strong as possible.

That Shahjahanpur has hed its' ain affaire Dreyfus.

That that puir duggie Jock is nae mair.

That there's been a guid bit fitba' lately.

That the I. O. R. social was a great success.

That there wis a guid selection o' auld Scotch sangs.

That the Sairgeant-Major's tea wis graun'.

That a'e buidy took ow're muckle o'it.

That "D" claim tae be the maist polite o' companies.

That the "clock" still gi'es guid time.

That a certain company's latest departure is the Red Brick Fund.

That anither company maun be practicin' for the Lloyd-Lindsay.

That they hae been investin' a large amount in chatties.

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Indian Birds.

—o—

I KNEW it would be no good asking my servants for information about the birds, for with them everything is "fish, fresh fowl, or red herring." I mean that if you see a native fishing and ask him what he hopes to catch, his answer is "machli." If you point to a strange bird to enquire what it is they tell you it is a "chiria." They evidently have not a high opinion of one's intelligence. It is the same with snakes; everything that is not a Cobra is a Kreit. All other animals come under the head of "jánwar." I have never asked my bearer what he would call a red herring, because I do not think he could tell me.

Deprived of all other source of information, I had to have recourse to books, and here is the result: I will begin with the Koil, because I dislike him most. My surprise was great when I learnt that this bird, the *hot weather* bird, whose tiresome high note is detestable in English ears, is in Oriental poetry the symbol for exquisite sound, and that the Indian lover, if he wishes to be really nice and talk poetry to his beloved one, will praise her for having the *voice of a Koil!*

Of the coppersmith bird, with his monotonous *tonk, tonk*, resembling the sound of a hammer on a brazen vessel, or perhaps still more the sound of stones thrown on ice, I have as yet found no mention. I have, however, named him Alexander, recalling the verse from the Bible. "Alexander, the coppersmith, did me much evil."

As in England, the saying goes that the wood-pigeon cries "Take too coos, Taffy," thus inciting the honest peasant to steal cows, so in India certain birds have had more profitable words put into their mouths, and these certainly greatly resemble their notes.

The black partridge is considered pious by Muhammadans, and is supposed to say "*Sobhan teri qudrat*," or "Thine, O Lord, is the power." Less reverent people put it "*Lassan, piáz, adhrak*," or "Garlic, onions, ginger."

The ring-dove also is dear to Muhammadans for his cry of "*Yusuf ku, Yusuf ku*," or "Joseph is in the well," which he first cried when the brethren showed Jacob the coat of many colours stained with blood and told him that Joseph was slain.

The partridge says "*Fakiri, Fakiri*," and a pigeon "*Haq sirr hu, haq sirr hu*," or "God knows the secret."

The cock exhorts the thoughtless to remember God by crowing "*Zikr Allah! Zikr Allah! ya ghafilin!*" while the raven hoarsely cries "*ghar, ghar*," as he did when he basely tried to betray Muhammad to his enemies when hidden in the cave of Jebel Thaur.

The parrot's voice is also admired. "Little parrot" is a pet name for children, and "parrot talk" is an endearing name for their conversation when considered fascinating.

On the other hand, the crow, "Koko," is held up as the bogey man to naughty children.

The graceful run of the partridge has not escaped notice, and the Oriental lover after telling his girl that she has the voice of the Koil must not forget to add that she runs like a partridge.

Next to comparing her walk to that of a partridge *or an elephant*, he cannot please her better than by telling her that she has the *gait of a goose*. Truly the Eastern mind differs widely from the Western!

And now for the peacock. Many legends account for the ugliness of his voice and legs as compared with the splendour of his plumage. An Indian story says that the peacock and the partridge had a dancing match. In those days the peacock had very pretty feet. "Lend me your feet and see *me* dance," said the partridge. The peacock consented, and off ran the deceitful partridge, never to return. Nowadays an Indian lady who wants to say something nasty to another lady calls her a *peacock-legged person*.

I will finish this paper on birds with the owl. Here, as elsewhere, he is considered a bird of ill omen. A stupid fellow is told that he is the "*son of an owl*," and it is a common expression to say that a man is as "*drunk as an owl*," when we would say "drunk as a lord."

Mr. Lockword Kipling in one of his books quaintly remarks: "It has not occurred to the Oriental jester to speak of a *boiled owl* in connection with intoxication; but, when a husband is abjectly submissive to his wife, her friends say she has given him boiled owl's flesh to eat."

G. W.

In the 16th Lancers Gazette.

—:o:—

Hameward Boun.'

—o—

Bang goes a gong,
An' afore vera long,
The last man has said, "God be thankit:"
An' he's hardly tae blame,
For its India's fame,
That she likes "Tommy" steeked in his blanket.
But wi' monkeys an' parrots,
At last safe an' soun',
We stan' on the deck
On oor way hameward boun'.

Ance mair o'er the sea,
Ance mair tae be free,
Still true leal hearts canna help thinkin,
An' the stern e'e fills,
While viewin' the hills,
That awa' in the wast are sinkin',
An thochts are o' chums,
Wha are sleepin' there soun';
That ought tae be here
On their way hameward boun'.

But awa' thro' the waves,
Lets' forget o' the graves,
An' the thousan's o' volleys fired o'er them;
Nor think o' the death,
In the plague breeze's breath,
Like oor betters let's try an' ignore them;
Let's transpose tae hame-sangs,
The waves every soun',
As we dash them aside,
On oor way hameward boun'.

While we've sogered abroad,
Ye wha've worshipped the god,
That your coffers wi' gold has been fillin',
We've sogered for *you*,
An' ever proved true,
Tae the vowes that we took wi' the shillin';
Then treat us like *men*,
When oor turn comes roun'
Tae haun' in the rifle
An' steer hameward boun'.

CAEN MOR.

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Shahjahanpur.

(continued).

—o—

Igniting at Meerut, then the largest military centre of Northern India, on the 10th May 1857, the flame of the sepoy revolt soon spread to the other cantonments throughout the country. The 28th Native Infantry were in garrison at Shahjahanpur, and the several cases of incendiarism which occurred in the station shortly after the receipt of the news of the successful outbreak at Meerut showed but too plainly that the sepoys at Shahjahanpur were in sympathy with their brethren at other places.

The common bazaar rumours of cartridges greased with pigs' fat and flour adulterated with bone dust were here as in other stations eagerly seized upon by the men as a pretext for insubordination, while the local flame of unrest was still further fanned by the exertions of a Maulvi who had arrived at Shahjahanpur some few days previous to the Meerut rising and who was no doubt responsible for the eventual outbreak in the station. The season of the year too was a most likely one for disturbances, the whole Musalman population being in a paroxysm of excitement over the celebration of the Id festival.

There was a rumour current just about this time, imparted by some of the sepoys to their officers, that, upon the occasion of the large annual fair (the "Chinaur-ka-mela" previously referred to) celebrated near the burial-ground of the early Pathan conquerors of the district, the city badmashes intended to plunder the treasury. This led to to the doubling of the usual sentries and guards and additional duty which, although done with the intention of proving to the regiment the confidence placed in it, had quite a contrary effect, as the sepoys immediately seized upon it as a grievance. Despite these warnings the officers of the regiment were, as in so many other cases, disinclined to believe in the disloyalty of the greater number of their men, their confidence in the regiment being not unnaturally strengthened by the fact that there were some hundred and fifty Sikhs in its ranks.

The spirit of disaffection was steadily smouldering, however, and when the flame at last burst forth it found the authorities, as in so many other places, entirely unprepared to cope with it.

The massacre at Shahjahanpur has been characterised as "one of the worst which occurred in Northern India," and certainly the attack upon the party assembled in the Church and the murder of others—an officer on the parade ground of his own regiment and a doctor fresh from attending the sick—were deeds of treachery exceeded in the annals of few cantonments.

"On the 31st ultimo" (May), writes Mr. Charles Jenkins, the Assistant Magistrate, in an official narrative of the historic tragedy, "Mr. Ricketts (the Collector) and myself, together with most of the officers and ladies of the 28th Native Infantry, were attending divine service when, with a yell, six or seven sepoys, armed with tulwárs and láthís, rushed in upon us. Ricketts received one tulwar wound as he stood by my side, when he ran through the vestry door and must have been cut down by some mutineers who were waiting outside. Captain Lysaght with some other officers and myself succeeding in closing the Church doors against our murderous assailants, who ran on the approach of a single man (Captain Sneyd) with a gun. About 100 sepoys rallied round us and our servants brought us guns and pistols, &c. We placed all the ladies in a turret, and for rather less than an hour held our position, and were joined by all the officers of the 28th Native Infantry, except Captain James, who was shot on the parade. Dr. Bowling was shot dead while driving up to the Church to join us. I found poor Rickett's body about 35 yards from the Church vestry door. I then strongly advised the whole party to escape to Pawáyan, the guns having been taken by the insurgents and all the bungalows being in a blaze. This they agreed to and started off, the ladies all in a carriage and buggy. I then, accompanied by two sowárs (whose names I will hereafter forward, for their fidelity and courage deserve no mean reward), went down to Mr. Ricketts' house and took a horse from his stable. I then went and met some twenty of the sepoys who stood by us at the Church, and told them I was going to Pawáyan, and those who were faithful could follow. I then, accompanied by two sowars, rode down by the *char* of the river, and about two miles from the station came up with the fugitives. After accompanying them some miles I rode on ahead to make arrangements with Jagarnath Sinh, the Raja, for their reception. He received me but coolly, and though I think he himself is true in heart to the British Government, yet his conduct on the following day, in almost forcing us to leave his place, though he supplied us with carriage and an escort, showed me but too truly the animus of his people. His excuse to me was that he was unable to protect so large a party, and that in the event of the insurgents coming up, what could he do? He further refused to take charge of the tahsil treasury under such circumstances, and in consequence of the flight of most of the tahsil chaprasis, through fear of the released prisoners who were fast coming in, I could do nothing but advise our party and myself accompany them over to Muhamdi, as Mr. Thomson had, in reply to a note I sent him from Pawáyan, stated that they were still safe there, and we accordingly reached there in safety yesterday morning at 11 A.M."

This was early in the month of June, and although the fate of the fugitives does not belong really to the history of Shahjahanpur, it may be mentioned that Muhamdi proved equally insecure. A move had consequently to be made to Sitapur, but the whole party were set upon and murdered before arriving there and one officer only escaped.

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Returning to Shahjahanpur, history is indebted to a native narrative for an account of what took place after the overthrow of the British power until its resumption the following year. The native account taken from the "Narrative of Events in Shahjahanpur in 1857-58," written by the successor in authority of the unfortunate Mr. Ricketts mentioned above, the first person killed by the mutinous sepoys, was thus taken down by the narrator:—

"The Tahsildar of Shahjahanpur, Muhammad Amjad Ali Khan, who has remained faithful throughout the disturbances, has stated before me that on the morning of the 31st, hearing from the city the noise of people shouting in the direction of cantonments, he at once rode off to the house of Mr. Ricketts, but hearing he had gone to church, he went there, and saw about 9 or 10 Europeans assembled outside the church; some of them had guns and their servants were bringing others. He also observed several sepoys taking the part of the Europeans. It will be observed in Mr. Jenkin's letter that only 6 or 7 sepoys formed the attacking party on the community assembled in the church. This fact, coupled with the speedy arrival of a body of sepoys (about 100) apparently with the intention of preventing the shedding of innocent blood, renders it probable that the idea of murdering the Europeans was not with the unanimous consent of the whole regiment. The Tahsildar learnt from Mr. Jenkins what had happened, and he then saw the lifeless body of Mr. Ricketts lying near the Church, with a severe sword wound almost severing the head from the body. Mr. Jenkins desired him to fetch the sowars, saying that with the assistance of the sepoys who were faithful, he hoped to quell the disturbance; but if he could not succeed, he and the rest of the party would start for Pawáyán. Out of the four sowars on duty at the Magistrate's house, two remained with Mr. Jenkins, and, as stated in his letter, accompanied the party the whole way to Muhamdi. One of these afterwards joined the rebels; but the other steadily refused to accept any service with them, and has received a reward from Government of Rs. 300 and been promoted by me to the rank of dafadar.

"Whilst the party here outside the church, the mutinous sepoys kept firing at them from some distance, but did not make any advance upon the small number of Europeans assembled, their chief object after the first outbreak apparently being the plunder of the Government treasury, in which direction they were seen hastening in separate parties. As soon as the bungalows were set on fire, and there was no longer any hope of successful opposition, Mr. Jenkins told the Tahsildar that he proposed proceeding to Pawáyan with the rest of the party. He desired him to go to the city and make the best arrangements he could for restoring order, and told him that when the regiment had marched from the station, he was to let him know. With the exception of the Tahsildar no other Government or any person of influence in the city proceeded to the assistance of the authorities.

"About this time, the sepoys went to the jail and let the prisoners loose. The Government property is said to have been chiefly plundered by the jail guard and barkandazes.

"It appears that Mr. Arthur Smith, the Assistant Magistrate, was not one of the party in the church as he was ill with fever and in his bungalow at the time the mutiny broke out. His idea seems to have been to avoid cantonments and make for the city, and, it is said, he attempted to get admittance into the house of Hamid Hasan Khan, Deputy Collector; but not succeeding, and being told by the servants that Hamid Hasan had gone to the house of Abdurrauf Khan, he went direct to the tahsil and kotwali, from which place, it appears, he was taken by Mazhar Karim (Faujdari Sarrishtadar) to the house of Muhammad Hussain Khan (Bakhshi of chaukidars), who left him there by himself. It is stated that this person would not, however, allow Mr. Smith to remain and sent his nephew to turn him out. Mr. Smith, being forcibly ejected, again proceeded to the kotwali, and concealed himself in a small hut where a Hindu chaprasi belonging to the Munsif's Office joined him and remained with him to the last. His hiding place was shortly after discovered by the sepoys who had by this time entered the city. They killed him and his faithful and voluntary attendant. I have been credibly informed that after he was shot by the sepoys his body was hacked with swords by some of the city people.

"After this, the sepoys proceeded to the house of the Treasurer for the sake of plunder. It so happened that this morning about Rs. 6,000 had been sent in by the Tahsildar of Tilhar and the chaprasis in charge, hearing of the outbreak as they were entering the station, conveyed the money straight to the Treasurer's house. After the sepoys entered the city, they proclaimed Nizam Ali, formerly kotwal and then a pensioner of Government, to be kotwal of the city. His favourite son-in-law (Hidayat Husain) had this day been released with the other prisoners from the jail. Among the city people who joined the sepoys in the work of plunder the most conspicuous were Mangal Khan and Azmat-ulla Khan, both noted bad characters, the latter of whom had been imprisoned several times. The sepoys then set up Kadir Ali Khan and Ghulam Husain Khan to be Nawabs of the city. The same evening the sepoys went in procession towards the cantonments to pay their respects to the Subadar of the Regiment, amongst them Ghansam Singh appeared to take a leading part.

"Whilst the bungalows in cantonments were being plundered, the people of the villages in the neighbourhood of Rosa Factory, together with the bad characters from the city, were actively employed in plundering the valuable works connected with the sugar refinery and rum factory of Messrs. Carew and Co., and the two dwelling-houses adjoining the factory were afterwards set fire to, and no less than 70,000 gallons of rum, together with a large quantity of loaf sugar and other produce, were destroyed. The two persons in charge of the factory, Mr. G. P. Carew and Mr. Brand, managed to escape with their lives from the place, but both subsequently perished. The former is said to have been one of the party with Sir M. Jackson who were sent on to Lucknow by the Raja of Mithouli and there cruelly murdered; the latter after having undergone all kinds of privations in the Oudh jungles at last fell a victim to fever on the 6th January 1858."

Of the seven European victims of the massacre at Shahjahanpur, five were killed by the mutineers themselves, whilst the two others were done to death by the city people. The most cowardly of all the murders was probably that of the surgeon, Dr. Bowling, who, after being allowed to visit the hospital and prescribe for

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the patients therein, was shot dead in his carriage by the relations and caste brethren of the very men upon whom he had been attending. His wife, who was with him at the time, was also wounded, but she together with her child and an English maid managed to reach the church and to form part of the unfortunate fugitive party to Pawáyan.

Dr. Bowling's murder is almost equalled by that of Captain James, 28th N. I. This officer after trying to reason with his men on their parade and after being answered by them that they were not such great traitors after all, having served the Government as they had done for some twenty years, was shot by the sepoys as he turned away in disgust.

The Revd. Mr. MacCallum, who had been conducting the service, was killed by some villagers after making his escape from the church when the attack commenced, whilst the seventh victim, the head-clerk in the Collector's office, was killed near the Collector's bungalow by some of the city people. A mournfully pleasing and redeeming feature follows the recounting of these horrors: two faithful natives, named Nasir Khan and Amir Ali, caused the dead bodies of six of the victims to be collected, and decently interred in a spot near the church, where a handsome monument now covers their remains.

The mutinous regiment having left for Bareilly on the evening of the outbreak, the recently elected governors of the city began to make their own arrangements for its management and well being. The contents of the treasury as a conciliatory measure, were distributed to the various Government servants as pay and reward for the previous month, while the police and other subordinates who were willing to remain were kept in their former situations.

The news of the successful mutiny at Bareilly and fall of that place was celebrated in Shahjahanpur by a formal procession through the town; overthrow of the British rule was proclaimed, and the name of the English under pain of death was forbidden to be used. Shortly afterwards the Rajput inhabitants of a village some miles distant threatened to attack the city, and the dwellers in other villages in the neighbourhood supplied their contingents of freebooters who plundered the country and committed all kinds of outrage to the terror of the more peacefully inclined inhabitants.

The supreme rule of the city, as is not in such cases unfrequent, passed successively through several hands, the administrating power eventually being invested in the person of one Ghulam Kadir Khan, a lineal descendant of the original founder of the city, Bahadur Khan.

During the month of June another mutinous regiment, on its way to Fathgarh from Sitapur, encamped at Azizganj on the right bank of the Garra river. The sepoys attempted extortions, but the townspeople, both Musalman and Hindu, mustered in threatening force, and the regiment continued upon its march to its destination. After this threat upon its resources Shahjahanpur raised several regiments of both horse and foot; started a manufactory for cannon, and had a "commander of the forces" appointed. Regular taxes were now levied by the officials of the rebel government, but several of the neighbouring Thakur villages resisted payment, and the presence of military force was necessary to enforce obedience. In most instances the Hindus resisted stoutly and the decapitation of the leaders of one village, and the exposure of their heads over the gateway of the fort, in no way deterred other villages from offering resistance to the demands made upon them. It must not be imagined, however, that the inhabitants of all the Hindu villages in the district were entirely blameless in the insurrection; they always appear to have kept an eye to the main chance, and a large part of the loot of Rosa factory was found in one of their villages (Seramau) when it was captured and plundered by the rebel government force from Shahjahanpur. Most of the Thakurs of the district, however, showed themselves undoubtedly loyal during the disturbances, though in most cases they were not in sufficient strength to offer any effectual resistance to the rebel officers.

At Miranpur Katra especially, the Thakurs proved their loyalty to the British government by protecting Captain Gowan, 18th N. I., and several other fugitives from Bareilly, who after being concealed for some five months eventually reached a place of safety. At Pawáyan, too, although the Raja received the fugitives from Shahjahanpur without any particular expression of good will, as mentioned in Mr. Jenkins' letter above, that conduct has been attributed to his apparent powerlessness to protect them and of fear for his own safety. Directly after the commencement of the disturbances the Raja made every preparation to act independently and on the defensive by collecting a large force of both arms, casting some ten guns, strengthening his fort, and improving the defences of the town by building a broad and deep ditch round its whole perimeter. He also thoughtfully called upon the various villages in his district to contribute to his treasury. This did not naturally please the supreme rebel power at Bareilly, so a force was sent from there to demand from the Pawáyan Raja his revenue. The Raja's brother moved out to oppose the rebel force, but no engagement took place, as a compromise was

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effected, and the Raja agreed to a payment of tribute. Before leaving this account of Pawáyan it may be mentioned that later on when the British power was once more in the ascendant the above mentioned Raja's brother had an opportunity of distinguishing himself. One of the chief rebel leaders, the notorious Maulvi of Fyzabad, Ahmadulla Shah, in the month of June 1858 paid a visit to Pawáyan in the hope of inducing the Raja Jagarnath Sinh or Singh to join in a new confederacy against the British. He failed to gain admission to the fort, so being mounted upon an elephant tried to force his way through the gateway, when he was shot by the Raja's brother. He immediately cut off the Maulvi's head and, accompanied by the Raja, at once set out with it for Shahjahanpur, and entering the Magistrate's house, whilst that functionary, together with some friends, was at dinner tossed the gruesome trophy upon the floor in front of them. Government granted a substantial reward to the Raja, and the Maulvi's head was exposed to view in a conspicuous part of the town. This is a slight anticipation of events, however, and a return must be made to the narration of the doings of the rebel government previous to the re-occupation by the British.

The news of the fall of Delhi, which event occurred on the 20th September 1857, naturally caused considerable consternation in Shahjahanpur. An attempt was made to preach a holy war, but this proving ineffectual, prayers that the British rule might not be restored were offered for three days in the Idgah. The prayers were of little avail, however, for the avenging British force was shortly to be sent upon its way for the re-conquest of Rohilkhand, and by the 30th April 1858 had reached and re-occupied Shahjahanpur.

The most interesting part of this roughly sketched history of Shahjahanpur, from a regimental point of view, is now being entered upon, for amongst the corps forming part of the army for the re-conquest of Rohilkhand was the 93rd Highlanders itself, with the laurels but recently won in the relief and capture of Lucknow fresh upon it.

Sir Colin Campbell's army advanced upon Shahjahanpur from Fatehgarh, the route being by the road across the Ramgunga at that place, through the town of Jalalabad and thence to Shahjahanpur. On the 28th April the advance took place, and on the following day the rebel pickets from Shahjahanpur were driven in. On the 30th the British force entered the town, which was found quite deserted; the rebel army, with whom was supposed to be the infamous Nana Sahib, having escaped the vengeance of the British by discreetly retiring at their approach in the direction of Mohamdi. Before leaving the station the rebels had most carefully destroyed all the public buildings so as to leave as little shelter as possible for the Britsh force and but one bungalow in the cantonment remained; some of the buildings and the wall of the jail and the bridge-of-boats over the Garra were not destroyed however. On the evening of the occupation of the city the British army encamped at Azizganj on the south of the Garra river, with two companies of the 79th Cameron Highlanders holding the fort to watch any advance from the city itself.

Arrangements were at once made to garrison the place as it would be an important post on the line of communication of the army now but entering upon the re-conquest of the country, and with the goal at Bareilly. Shahjahanpur being then as now, a straggling place and its re-occupation by the enemy, should they return in force, impossible to prevent, the jail (now used as a Commissariat Godown) was selected as the most defensible position and into it were thrown two 9-pounder bullock-draught field guns, two 2-pounders, a wing of the 82nd Foot and DeKantzow's irregular horse, whilst the Commander-in-Chief continued his march on the 2nd May with the remainder of his force towards Bareilly.

The 93rd accompanied this force, and although they took an important part in the famous battle at Bareilly fought on the 5th May, they together with three other regiments of the Highland Brigade were left in garrison there and did not return to Shahjahanpur with Brigadier John Jones' relieving column. The necessity for the despatch of this column from Bareilly was as follows:

As was not unanticipated Sir Colin Campbell had no sooner turned his back upon Shahjahanpur to advance on Bareilly than the rebel force under the Fyzabad Maulvi made an attack upon the town, and Colonel Hale of the 82nd had hardly time to complete his defences before he was surrounded by an army computed at eight hundred men and some twelve guns. For eight days and nights he gallantly defended his position, resisting, in accordance with instructions, any temptation to try his fortune in the open.

News of the straits of the Shahjahanpur garrison reached Sir Colin at Bareilly on the evening of the 7th May and he immediately organized a force to proceed to its relief. Commanded by Brigadier Jones ("the Avenger"), the relieving column, consisting of the 79th Highlanders, 60th Rifles, the other wing of the 82nd, the 22nd Punjab Infantry with a squadron of the Carabineers and Cureton's Multan Horse, and a light field battery and some heavy guns and

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sappers, pressed forward without delay and reached the outskirts of Shahjahanpur on the 11th May at a point where the city and cantonment roads converge. The enemy, chiefly composed of cavalry, came out to meet the relieving force, somewhat exhausted after its trying march in the heat during which there had been several fatal cases of sunstroke, but was beaten in fair fight and lost one gun. Brigadier Jones' deficiency of the arm in which the enemy excelled prevented the defeat of the rebels being followed up with any advantage, but the town was entered and the gallant little garrison relieved.

The rebel force was much too strong to follow up as had originally been intended, so General Jones contented himself, until the arrival of reinforcements from Bareilly, with holding the town of Shahjahanpur in force and watching the ground in the far side of the Kanant and all the fords by which it could be crossed. His main body was sheltered in the many mango topes of the cantonment. Before the British force could receive any addition to its numbers the rebel force was largely augmented, it being joined by the army which had escaped the British vengeance at Bareilly, and a determined attack was delivered on the 15th May by the chief rebel leaders in person. On the same day Sir Colin had left Bareilly with the 64th Regiment, a wing of the Biloch battalion, the 9th Lancers, three squadrons of Punjab Cavalry, a troop of horse and some siege artillery and the artillery park, intending to march to Fatehpur, but receiving information of the state of affairs at Shahjahanpur he changed his destination and joined General Jones at this place on the 18th. On the day of Sir Colin's arrival the British force made its first offensive movement ,throwing a strong picket with some guns across the Kanant river into the village of Lodhipur. Under cover of this picket a bridge over the river was rapidly completed. On the next afternoon the enemy made a demonstration in front of the Lodhipur picket and also upon the British left but contented themselves by displaying their numerous cavalry and by a long range cannonade. This was replied to and the advanced picket was reinforced as the enemy threatened. Nightfall eventually put an end to the skirmish.

Further reinforcements under Brigadier John Coke (who raised the 1st Punjab Infantry, the "Pihla Cokes" of Tochi) reached the British on the 22nd May. These reinforcements consisted of a wing of the 42nd, the 1st Punjab Infantry, 1st Sikh Infantry, 7th Irregular Cavalry, a heavy and light field battery and some pioneers. With this largely increased command General Jones attacked the rebels on the morning of the 24th and pursued them to their final position at Mohamdi; judicious dispersion to the jungles of Oudh, however, saved them from complete annihailation.

The extensive forest tracts in the northern parts of the district, where Shahjahanpur borders upon Oudh and the Terai, for a long time afforded shelter to marauding bands of rebels, and a considerable amount of trouble and anxiety was experienced before they could be expelled by the local auxiliary force raised for the purpose. Except for these petty annoyances however, the victory of the 24th May meant the final destruction of the rebel power in Rohilkhand and led to the almost immediate pacification of the province. Shahjahanpur remained strongly garrisoned during the cold weather season of 1858-59, a column (including the 93rd Highlanders, who had summered at Bareilly and marched on the 10th October 1858 to reinforce Shahjahanpur) under Brigadier Troup operating from Shahjahanpur in the campaign for the final subjugation of Oudh.

With the complete re-establishment of law and order the present cantonment was formed. The old cantonment being for the requirements of but a native infantry battalion was of modest dimensions; the new cantonment however included the larger part of the old civil lines and a large part of the country to the north as it was then the intention to make Shahjahanpur a large military centre. This intention was never carried out and for many years the permanent garrison was fixed at half a British and half a native infantry battalion. In 1886 the garrison was further reduced by the withdrawal of the native half battalion and within the next few years there is the probability of the abandonment of the cantonment altogether.

This is much to be regretted, for there can be few healthier cantonments on the plains of Bengal, and certainly fewer in which a British regiment can keep as "fit" during the summer months, as at Shahjahanpur.

W. S.

Q.-Why is "D" Company like the "Thin Red Line"?
A.—Because it is tipped with "Steel."

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Homes for Officers' Widows and Daughters.

(NAVAL AND MILITARY).

7, KNARESBOROUGH PLACE, S.W.

24th May, 1899.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

May I venture to ask your perusal of the enclosed appeal, and to earnestly solicit your help and co-operation in this much-needed movement.

I propose, if successful, to ask the Council of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association (of which HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES is President) to ally the Homes to their work, with an executive Committee of Officers representing the several Branches of the two Services, say--

4 ROYAL NAVY. 1 ROYAL MARINES. 1 DEPARTMENTAL.	For the Navy.
1 CAVALRY. 1 ROYAL ENGINEERS. 1 ROYAL ARTILLERY. 2 INFANTRY. 1 DEPARTMENTAL CORPS.	For the Army.

I have the honour to be
Faithfully yours,
JAMES GILDEA, *Colonel.*

LETTER TO THE PRESS,
re
OFFICERS' WIDOWS AND DAUGHTERS.

SIR,—Of the many works initiated and carried on during the last fifty years for the benefit of those connected with the Navy and Army, there is, I venture to think, still a missing link, namely, a Home or Homes for the widows and orphan daughters of officers of the two Services. None but those who have to do with Naval and Military Funds and Institutions know the distressing cases which are continually coming to light of officers' widows and daughters who with very limited incomes are bravely battling against altered circumstances, and who from the natural delicacy of their position seldom make their wants known. To these a Home rent free would make all the difference in their advancing years. A few are, by the never-failing thought of Her Gracious Majesty, provided with apartments in Hampton Court Palace and elsewhere, but these are exceptional cases. It is on the system of separate apartments in a Home that I venture to think some steps might be taken. The object should be, in the first instance at least, to provide unfurnished rooms, say three or four, rent free, subject to certain limitations, for those who have a small but sufficient income for maintenance, but who cannot afford to pay rent and taxes. Later on, if sufficient funds were available, this might in some special cases be supplemented by a small allowance. It might be advisable that the Home or Homes should be established near London, but in any case not far from shops, where the necessaries of life can be easily and cheaply obtained. To enable all contributors to have a continued interest in the scheme it would be well that the election to the Home should be by votes say, for members, one vote for each annual subscription of half a guinea; for life members, donations of ten guineas, two votes at each election: ships, regiments, departmental corps, firms, corporations, or clergymen preaching in aid of the Homes, one vote for each contribution of five guineas; or one vote in perpetuity for the payment of twenty guineas in one sum. Contributors of five hundred pounds, a perpetual presentation to the Homes of one widow or daughter. I would, therefore, earnestly appeal to officers, both Naval and Military, and all interested in the Services, to co-operate in this movement. A Fund, entitled "Homes for Officers' Widows and Daughters," has been opened at Messrs. Coutts & Co.'s, 59, Strand, to which subscriptions may be paid, and I shall be glad to receive and acknowledge any such that may be sent to me direct, and which in all cases should be crossed "Coutts & Co.," or to supply any further information that may be desired. Trustees for the Fund will be appointed at once, should the proposal meet with approval.

Yours, &c.,
JAMES GILDEA, *Colonel.*

7, KNARESBOROUGH PLACE, S.W.
May 24th, 1899.

—:o:—

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACT FROM LONDON GAZETTE.

MAJOR J. Hasluck Campbell to be Lieutenant-Colonel, *vice* Brevet-Colonel O. C. Haunay, placed on half pay, dated 27th June 1899.

Lieutenant J. Campbell to be Adjutant, *vice* Captain A. Sutherland, whose tenure is about to expire, dated 16th July 1899.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeant.—No. 2551, Lance-Sergeant H. Kerr "F" Company, dated 13th April 1899.

To be Corporals.—No. 5763, Lance-Corporal R. Allison, "C" Company, dated 13th April; No. 3022, Lance-Corporal W. Moat, "A" Company, dated 21st April.

PAY OF RANK.

Of Lance-Corporals.—No. 5560, Lance-Corporal J. Laird, "C" Company; No. 6145, Lance-Coporal A. McDonald, "G" Company; No. 5667, Lance-Corporal A. Goddard, "A" Company, dated 6th June; No. 5163, Lance-Corporal J. Allan, dated 1st July.

APPOINTMENTS.

Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 5645, Private H. Bracken, "C" Company.

Assistant Gymnastic Instructor.—No. 4602, Private T. Currie, "G" Company.

Drill Sergeant.—No. 3037, Sergeant G. Arnott, "B" Company.

Drummer.—No. 6566, Boy C. Hoey, "H" Company.

Acting Piper.—No. 5784, Private W. Chapman, "H" Company.

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GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. *per diem*:—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 4813, Pte. J. Savage. | No. 3067, Pte. D. J. Smith.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 4670, Pte. J. Donnelly. | No. 4801, Pte. J. Anderson.
„ 4826, „ W. Richardson. | „ 4820, „ H. Montgomery.
„ 4721, „ T. Wylie. |

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 4638, Pte. A. Bowie. | No. 4520, Lc.-Cpl. R. Boyd.
„ 3214, „ G. Stanley. | „ 4672, Pte. C. Stewart.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4818, Pte. J. Lapsley.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 4821, Pte. W. Miller. | No. 4198, Lce.-Cpl. J. Ricketts.
No. 5265, Pte. A. Hamilton.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4325, Pte. J. Moriarty. | No. 4654, Pte. C. Bennie.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 4838, Pte. J. Halford. | No. 4380, Pte. T. Cameron.

Granted 1d. *per diem*:—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 6189, Pte. J. McGregor.

"*B*" *Company.*

No. 6120, Pte. J. Munro.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 5403, Pte. J. Watson. | No. 3860, Pte. W. Kennedy.
No. 5583, Dr. W. Brown.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 6167, Pte. W. Simpson.

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 6213, Pte. A. Campbell. | No. 5533, Pte. J. McLean.

"*F*" *Company.*

No. 6200, Lc.-Cpl. J. Lumsden | No. 6201, Pte. M. Jamieson.
„ 6028, Pte. A. Hamilton. | „ 6182, „ A. Watt.
No. 6201, Pte. J. Moore.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4129, Pte. R. Wilson.

"*H*" *Company.*

No. 5380, Pte. G. McLuckie. | No. 6205, Pte. J. McArthur.

Restored 1d. *per diem*:—

"*A*" *Company.*

No. 6849, Pte. J. Allan.

"*C*" *Company.*

No. 4417, Pte. J. Brown.

"*D*" *Company.*

No. 4883, Pte. J. Turner. | No. 5630, Pte. J. Lorrimer.
No. 4402, Pte. J. Aitken.

SIGNALLING PRIZES.

No. 3236, Sergeant R. Miller, "G" Company.
„ 3394, „ J. Durnan, "F" „
„ 3469, Private A. Hamilton, "E" „
„ 3123, „ W. Johnson, "C" „
„ 3870, „ T. Brown, "E" „
„ 4330, „ A. Kerr, "B" „
„ 3851, „ J. Smith, "A" „
„ 4571, „ J. Hiddles, "H" „

MUSICAL CERTIFICATES.

Passed in elementary forms of musical theory and instrumentation.

No. 4878, Pte. J. McLachlan, "H" Company.
„ 5758, „ E. Parry, "E" „

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years' service with the colours—
Sergeant C. Duncan, Unattached List.
No. 3300, Pte. D. Ward, "E" Company.
„ 3650, Corporal J. J. Haskell.
To complete 12 years' service—
No. 4269, Sergeant F. G. Fressanges, Unattached List.

LANGUAGE CERTIFICATE.

No. 5293, Pte. D. Macbean, "E" Company, passed Lower Standard Urdu, Part I.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENTS.

"D" COMPANY.

Best Shots of Corporals and Privates.

		£	s.	d.
No. 4397,	Corporal E. G. Cody	0	10	6
„ 5182,	Lance-Corporal T. Morrison ...	0	9	0
„ 5116,	Private A. McDonald	0	8	0
„ 4885,	„ J. P. Devlin	0	7	3
„ 4287,	„ J. Boyle	0	7	0
„ 6142,	„ W. Rastall	0	6	0
„ 4832,	„ P. Bradley	0	6	0
„ 4373,	„ J. McFarlane	0	5	0
„ 5488,	„ A. Gillon	0	5	0

Best Shot No. 6 Practice.

No. 5501,	Lance-Corporal J. Houston ...	0	5	3½

Most Improved Shots.

No. 5488,	Private A Gillon	0	6	3
„ 6142,	„ W. Rastall	0	5	0
„ 4543,	Piper D Findlayson	0	5	0
„ 5482,	Pte. E. Wright	0	3	0
„ 3992,	„ A. Thomson	0	2	0

Best Shot of Sergeants.

No. 3077,	Sergeant C. Johnstone	0	10	7½

Best Shooting Section, Table "B."

No. 2 Section		2	2	6
Section Commander.—Sergeant Johnstone		0	5	3½
Best Shooting Section No. 14 Practice ...		1	1	3

"B" COMPANY.

Best Shots of Corporals and Privates.

		£	s.	d.
No. 4962,	Pte. J. Henry	0	16	0
„ 5390,	„ A. Stewart	0	13	0
„ 5052,	„ R. Hunter	0	10	0
„ 4979,	„ M. Mossman	0	8	0
„ 4751,	„ J. Atherton	0	7	0
„ 4595,	„ J. Dolan	0	6	0
„ 5504,	„ J. Stevenson	0	5	3

Best Shot No. 6 Practice.

No. 3293,	Corporal H. Williams	0	5	5½

Most Improved Shots.

No. 4752,	Pte. T. Blythe	0	6	0
„ 4962,	„ J. Henry	0	5	9
„ 4980,	Dr. A. Ferguson	0	5	0
„ 5439,	Pte. C. Morrison	0	5	0

Best Shot of Sergeants.

No. 3692,	Sergeant W. G. Stonor	0	10	10½
Best Shooting Section Table B—No. 4 Section		2	3	6
Section Commander.—Sergeant Stonor ...		0	5	5½
Best Section No. 14 Practice—No. 4 Section		1	1	9

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Best Shooting Section, Table "B."			
No. 4 Section	2	7	0
Best Shooting Section, No. 14 Practice.			
No. 4 Section	1	3	6
Commander of best Shooting Section.			
Corporal Ogg	0	5	10½

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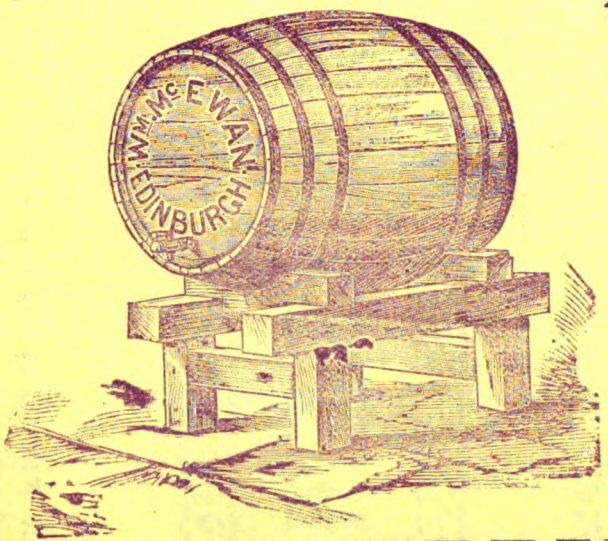

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5/5

Rept 1894

The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 5 - Vol. V. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—SEPTEMBER 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

CAPTAIN H. d'E. Vallancey and Lieutenant J. Campbell have both secured "Officers' Extra Certificates" at the Pachmari School of Musketry. Colour Sergeant W. Smith and Sergeants G. Arnott and J. Hay also have been granted Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers' Certificates. Sergeant Hay has been detained as Instructor for the new class which assembled this month at Pachmari.

* * * * *

A prize of twenty rupees for the best garden has been awarded to No. 1984, Private J. Douglas, "E" Company.

* * * * *

We are improving. The canteen is not now opened after the dinner hour; instead, men are allowed to take two pints of beer to drink with their midday meal, away with them from the canteen before it closes at a quarter to one.

* * * * *

The One and All, like the majority of us has to make copy (we don't, unfortunately, like our contemporary, all possess the happy knack of "making," however), and have devoted a column or so of their August number to a "Review of Reviews" under which they notice their service contemporaries.

Their few lines respecting ourselves will bear repetition.

The Thin Red Line from the clouds of Chaubattia shew the 93rd to be alive and kicking, while a wood-cut depicts life under the Punkah at Shahjahanpur, and the Parrot says what it hears, which is singularly straightforward of it.

The last time you descended from your mountain fastnesses, we, the Editor, descended with you, to take care of you, and very good care you took of us.

Here's Luck.

How does the Sliding Camp get along, now that Master Newall has turned Gypey?

* * * * *

Although they don't often carry the rifle, the Band when they have to use it are seldom found wanting. This year in individual practices they just miss averaging "marksmen" by one point,

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and of the thirty-three exercises nineteen wear the "Gold guns." This on Chaubattia range—a range of much uncertainty and many vagaries of light and wind, as many experienced shots have this year found to their cost—is not bad, and more than compares favourably with the performances of companies.

* * * * *

What an unnecessary amount of trouble the War Office Tailoring Department seems to be giving itself over a design for a "field service cap"!

Why in the name of goodness should it be necessary for a fatigue cap to fulfil all the conditions of a sola topee? Surely the army at home has a full dress head-dress which can be worn when it is required to protect the head from the sun or from anything else, leaving a light cap for wearing when off duty? If the old country is becoming as tropical as most of the home papers would have us believe, why not adopt the cork helmet at once, and have the home army in foreign service uniform and equipment without more delay!

* * * * *

Writes a Band correspondent: —

"The Band had a return (we had no notice "of any previous entertainment—*Ed.*) invitation "for the 17th August to a "Social" at Ranikhet. "A cricket match took place during the day "and ended in a draw. The Lancashire lads "proved themselves excellent hosts and had "a bountiful repast laid in the pavilion. A "smoking concert held in the band-room ended "a very pleasant day."

* * * * *

Sergeant A. MacDonald, late of "A" Company, who left us last year to go as Sergeant-Instructor to the Mussoorie Volunteer Rifles, is, we hear, getting a much better appointment. He goes to Cawnpore on the 1st October next as first class Instructor to the Volunteers there.

* * * * *

Next to a Comic Journal recommend us to a high class illustrated London Weekly for geographical accuracy! A recent copy of the I. L. N. mentions *Jhansi* as being on the *North-West Frontier*: this almost equals the same periodical's playful allusion a few years ago to the *mobilisation at Calcutta of the force for the relief of Chitral.*

* * * * *

In accordance with apparently ancient custom the troopship programme for 1899-1900 has recently been revised; the latest details, for the benefit of any of our readers who may be interested, are published on another page of this number.

* * * * *

Despite the somewhat elaborate preparations that have been made there will, so it is said on good authority, be no Hill Manœuvres around Almora this year. We can well imagine the regret with which this information will be received by the majority of our readers, especially those here at head-quarters, but no doubt much will be done at Bareilly (for which place it is believed we shall march from here on the 3rd November) to dispel any longing that may still remain to display our agility at "*Khud*-hopping."

The despatch of the Indian Contingent to South Africa has no doubt had much to do with this curtailment of the cold weather manœuvre programme, and it is only our regret that the practice offered by the *khuds* of Chaubattia cannot be perfected upon the Koptjes of the Natal borderland.

———: o :———

Let 'em all come.

—o—

It's a prime ould place,
"What's me crime," ould place,
And the best that's in the station ye'll allow;
In the mornin' whin ye waken,
Ye've a head as big as two,
Ye've three teeth badly shaken,
One eye's black, the other's blue,
It's a great ould place,
"Stockin' fate" ould place.
Where I am lodgin' now.

PRODIGIOUS. - *N.-C. O. to Squad at Firing Exercises* "Musketry Drills, you know what to do,—In two motions—Ready."

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Sergeants' Shooting Match.

(From an unknown correspondent.)

93RD *vs.* STANDING CAMP.

THIS the return shooting match took place on our range at Chaubattia on the 24th August, the last occasion on which the Sergeants of the Standing Camp tested the merit of our marksmen; the 93rd, it will be remembered, came off best to the tune of 11 points. Now on our own ground we meant to show that our previous success was not a piece of luck. The day selected turned out most favourable; if anything the wind was a trifle unsteady, certainly, but not unduly so, and the light was fair with the atmosphere clear and moist. *

The Standing Camp representatives arrived about eleven o'clock, and after dinner, which was taken early, both teams repaired to the range, shooting commencing shortly after twelve noon. The best scores on our side were made by Sergeant Master Tailor Crawford and Sergeant Arnott; the former made the excellent score of 95, and the latter 93. Sergeant Crawford's shooting came as a surprise to many, as it was his first appearance in the Sergeants' team. His opportunities of knowing the range had been but few, in fact they were confined to two practice shoots a few days previously.

After the match both teams adjourned to the mess for tea, and after this a few of the Standing Camp Sergeants who had duties to attend to left us. A good number, however, remained, and an enjoyable evening was spent. A smoking concert had been arranged beforehand, and some good songs were sung. Speeches were made during the course of the evening by Sergeant-Major Lundie on behalf of the Sergeants of the 93rd, replied to by Bandmaster Miller of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry on behalf of the Standing Camp. Toasts were pledged, and altogether a very jolly evening was spent. The following are the scores made by the respective teams, the conditions being ten a side, the best eight to count:—

SERGEANTS, 93RD.

	200 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	Total.
Sergt. W. Crawford	31	30	34	95
„ G. Arnott	29	33	31	93
„ W. Scott	29	29	31	89
Q. M. Sgt. L. Robertson	31	32	25	88
Sergeant J. Tyndall	31	29	28	88
Cr.-Sergt. H. Ditcham	31	33	23	87
„ W. Smith	33	33	21	87
Sergt. C. Clarke	29	33	23	85
		Total		712
		Average		89·00
Counted out—				
Sergt. F. Marks				79
„ A. Watters				74

* A Sergeant Instructor of Musketry seems to betray his identity here—— Can it be——! *Ed.*

SERGEANTS, STANDING CAMP.

	200 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	Total.
Sergt. Wilkinson	29	30	29	88
Cr.-Sergt. Phillips	25	31	31	87
„ Ennis	27	32	26	85
„ Reynolds	27	28	28	83
Sergt. Turner	24	28	31	83
„ Gould	27	28	25	80
„ Richardson	28	27	20	75
„ Mortimer	28	29	15	72
		Total		653
		Average		81·62
Counted out—				
Sergt. Rice				72
„ Taylor				71

:o:

Football.

—o—

59TH EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT *v.* 93RD HIGHLANDERS. (*Communicated*)

"Everything comes to he who waits," and after much waiting the long talked of match postponed so many times has been decided. On Tuesday, 29th ultimo, the representatives of the "Lilywhites" and the "Rories," ably controlled by the whistle of Captain Webb of the 59th, did battle for their respective battalions.

The teams were as follows:—

59TH.

LANCE-CORPORAL GRAINGER.
CATON. JENKINSON.
CHAPMAN. BRYCE. BROWN.
McGUINNESS. BOOTH.
ROWAN. CROWTHER. HEARNE.

93RD.

WILSON "G." CORPORAL WATSON "F." McKENZIE "H."
CAMPBELL "E." LEITCH "E."
LCE.-CPL. HUDGHTON "F" McGOWAN "F" MULHOLLAND "G."
BAKER "G." KERR "E."
MAYWOOD "F."

On the ball being kicked-off it was at once fastened on by the 93rd, but was brilliantly returned by Bryce, give-and-take play occupying the next ten minutes, the Forward line of the Lillywhites showing to some advantage, but they were equally well held by the Back division of the 93rd, Kerr at this juncture playing splendidly. It was really miserable to watch the very feeble attempts of the front line of the 93rd; their manipulating of the ball in mid-field was fairly good, but on nearing the goal line their old-time failing showed itself again and again. Shoot for goal they would not, evidently being under the impression that the ball could be walked through—an idea very soon dispelled by the sound play of the "Lilywhites'" defence. Half time was now drawing near and neither team had scored, although strenuous efforts were being made on both sides to open the scoring, the ball travelling continually from end to end. Both teams were repeatedly trying at goal, but to no purpose. The whistle at last announced half-time without any scoring.

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On resuming the game it could be at once seen that both teams meant business. The game became very fast indeed, the Forwards of the 59th playing well together, giving our Back division plenty to do. They responded right gallantly, however, Kerr especially distinguishing himself by sending the ball back time after time well beyond mid-field. Here play raged for a considerable time, when Hearne of the 59th suddenly got possession, raced down the field easily, evaded our right-half and centered the ball beautifully at the right moment. The pass was taken by the Lancashires' inside-right, who shot straight and true but to no purpose, Maywood being all there, and with a strong punt he cleared. It was a critical moment, however; the ball was again caught and sent back; this time it beat our custodian and just caught the upright, a save being impossible. Cheer after cheer naturally greeted this advantage to the East Lancashires—an advantage they kept till the end, as no other goal was scored.

From this point of the game both teams slackened down, a want of training showing on both sides. "Time" was drawing near and the 93rd might have had one or two tries to equalize or more, but shoot for goal they would not; with some five minutes to go, the "Rories" were hovering round the goal of their opponents, McKenzie and Leitch especially trying their hardest. At last a corner was secured and nicely kicked by Wilson, but the defence would admit of nothing but another corner. McKenzie this time centered, but our centre lost the golden opportunity and but another corner was the eventual result; this was equally unproductive and the whistle blew during some desultory play in mid-field.

The "Lilywhites" had won an extremely fast and even game by one goal to *nil*.

* * * * *

In extenuation it may be mentioned that there were five new players in the 93rd team, which was really only an experimental one. The East Lancashires on the other hand played, except for goal-keeper, their seasoned team. For the winners Grainger, Bryce, Booth and Hearne were far and away the pick of the eleven, whilst amongst ours Maywood, Kerr, Baker and McGowan were the only players who upheld their reputation.

SERGEANTS *v.* CORPORALS.

A football match between the Sergeants and Corporals took place on the parade ground on Saturday, 2nd August, the Corporals as the challengers being "at home." The Sergeants appeared in the Regimental colours, and seemed to be the favourites. The Corporals sported the A. T. A. colours, though, it must be admitted, they could hardly be accused of having adopted its principles. The ball was kicked off at 5-30 P. M., and the play during the first half was pretty evenly balanced. The Corporals, however, managed to score once, and the whistle sounded at half time with the Corporals 1, Sergeants 0. The second half commenced with a fierce onslaught on the Corporals' goal by the Sergeants, whose energy was soon rewarded, matters thus being equalised. This disturbed the Corporals' lethargy, and they soon rushed up the field, and again took the lead. The Sergeants, however, could not allow this, and a minute or so afterwards the scores were again equalised. Their blood was now up (fortunately none was spilt), and a few minutes afterwards they again scored. This only increased their ardour, and they might have scored again with an open goal at their mercy had not the referee, sorely tempted by the ball rolling at his feet, and suffering from the prevailing excitement, shot it over the bar. The play of the Sergeants languished somewhat after this, and the Corporals trying hard to equalise were eventually successful at almost the last moment of the game. The match thus ended in a draw with three goals each. The Sergeants were without the services of one of their most reliable players (the Pipe-Major), and had to play a substitute in goal. A return match will probably come off in a few days' time.

TEAMS.

SERGEANTS.

LCE.-CORPL. ALLAN.

WALLACE. TYNDALL.
LOCKIE. PEGGIE. G. GUNN.
MATTHEW. CLARKE. FORBES. CRAWFORD. WATTERS.
HALL. ADCOCK. JAMIESON. REID. ATKINSON.
INGLIS. OGG. RUTHERFORD.
BALLANTYNE. WATSON.
GILBERT.

CORPORALS.

* * * * *

The following matches have also been played during the last month:—

"*E*" *v.* "*H*" *Company.*—"F" 2 goals, "H" *nil.*
"*G*" *v.* "*E*" *Company.*—"G" 3 goals, "E" one goal.
"*F*" *v.* "*G*" *Company.*—"F" 3 goals, "G" one goal.
"*F*" *Company v. Corporals.*—A draw, each side scoring two goals.

—:o:—

Cricket.

—o—

There was a cricket match between our Band and that of the East Lancashire's Band on the 17th August at Ranikhet. The match ended in a draw. Willcocks and Peggie of ours were in good form, the latter performing the hat trick. Corporal Davey (27 not out) and Saywell

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gave the best exhibition of the national summer game on the side of the "Lilywhites." Scores:—

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Corporal Willcock, b Clarke	...	5	c and b Saywell	... 29
Bandsman Lillywhite, b Clarke	..	0	not out ...	... 2
Sergeant Watters, c Avery, b Saywell	...	1	c and b Cairns	... 0
,, Peggie, b Clarke	... ...	5	c Cairns, b Davey	... 4
Corporal Hall, c Avery, b Saywell	...	6	c Cairns ...	... 2
Bandsman Burns, run out	... ...	2	c Saywell ...	... 8
,, Ogden, c Woodley, b Clarke		14	c Cairns ...	... 1
,, Yeo, b Saywell	... ...	0	c Saywell ...	... 7
,, Edwards, not out	... ...	8	c Davey ...	... 7
,, Dunlop, b Saywell	... ...	0	c and b Davey	... 2
,, Ward, c Cairns, b Saywell		1	b Davey ...	... 2
Extras	... ...	2	Extras ...	... 2
Totals	... ...	44		66

	1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Corporal Woodley, hit wicket 6	...	5	not out ...	... 13
,, Saywell, c Burns, b Peggie	..	7	Hit wicket 6 ...	... 18
Bandsman Foster, b Peggie	... ...	0		
Corporal Davey, c Hall, b Peggie	...	2	not out ...	... 27
Bandsman Cairns, b Hall	... ...	5	c Ogden, b Hall	... 4
,, Snelling, b Peggie	... ...	0		
Sergeant Clarke, b Hall	.. ..	2	b Peggie ...	... 0
Bandsman Whalley, b Hall	... ...	1		
,, Avery, b Peggie	... ...	0		
,, Willis, l b w, b Peggie	...	0	b Hall ...	... 0
,, Drummond, not out	...	2	b Peggie ...	... 0
Extras	... ...	3	Extras ...	... 0
Totals	... ...	27	for five wickets	67

—o—

Letters to the Editor.

BON ACCORD WORKS, 46 GARDEN REACH, CALCUTTA.

10*th August* 1899.

To The Editor, "The Thin Red Line,"
93rd Highlanders, Chaubattia.

DEAR SIR,—Please accept my most sincere thanks for the copy of "The Thin Red Line" of June last. I do not see the *Pioneer*, and had not seen the reviews of Colonel Alexander's book, which you republish. I have read the article with great interest and by to-day's post I send you a copy of the weekly *Statesman*, Calcutta, August the 3rd, in which you will find a cutting from the daily *Statesman* of 1st July from your humble servant on Colonel Alexander's book, which I have read. I do not suppose you know Colonel Alexander, but I did very well, and my letter expresses my unbiassed opinion of the book. It is full of mistakes, and cannot have been compiled from a diary kept at the time.

After I had published my reminiscences of the mutiny, I went over the ground of our advance on the Secundra Bagh on the 16th November 1894, with Mr. W. Findlay, who was then Major in the Rajpootana Malwa Railway Volunteers. He was a Sergeant of my Company, No. 7, and was with the ammunition guard, and saw the whole proceedings as an onlooker, and he corrected me where I had made mistakes.

I have not got Colonel Alexander's book by me as I write, and cannot quote the exact page, but you will doubtless recollect where he mentions about the three men who threatened to do for him. Well one of these men is still alive in India as Under Viewer of the Umaria Coal Mines. His name is John MacReynolds, and if you were to hear and compare his account of what took place with that of Colonel Alexander you would be much amused. But I need not say more for the present.

Yours sincerely,
W. FORBES MITCHELL.

—o—

THE REGIMENTAL FOOTBALL TEAM.

To the Editor, "The Thin Red Line."

SIR,—Will you allow me to say a few words regarding what I think ought to be the composition of the team. We have suffered defeat so many times of late and we hear the constant cry that the regiment is not properly represented. Every one knows that frequently changing places, such as from left wing to right and half-back to forward is ruinous, and that it would be much better, after having got a good representative team, to keep it and not be continually separating the members of it. I will now proceed with the building of a team which, according to my idea, would be a representative one, and should like to hear from others their opinions regarding it.

Goal.—MAYWOOD. He is a young soldier, has a good height and reach, though he is a trifle slow, which I think is counteracted by his coolness and nerve.

Backs.—BAKER AND WALLACE. Our two best without doubt. The former's experience should be of the greatest use to the team.

Half-backs.—HUDGTON, MCGOWAN, WATSON. The former is a hard-worker, though still a trifle raw for regimental matches. MCGOWAN is one of whom we can be proud. He is a thorough player, a good tackler, and judicious placer. His long kicks which send the ball straight into the goal mouth, which often score, are really good. Watson makes a great mistake in playing forward, his place is half-back, where he has always distinguished himself.

Forwards.—LEITCH, HENRY (*Left Wing*), HOUSTON (*Centre*), CAIRNS AND MCKENZIE (*Right Wing*). This is the rank of which so many complaints are made, principally on account of their bad shooting and slowness in taking advantage of opportunities. I think Houston the best centre-forward we have. He is much better than Watson, and his rushing tactics render him a very dangerous man. Again his manner of feeding his wings is much better than any other player we have. It was a bad day when McKenzie and Cairns were separated. They knew each other's play so well, and Cairn's method of taking the goal-keeper was ludicrous and commanded the admiration of the battalion at the last cup tie we had with the East Lancashire Regiment. Leitch is, as we know, not the best of shots at goal, therefore it would be better for him to play in his original position, *viz.*, outside left. Henry his inside partner would be of the greatest possible assistance; his selfishness can be go trid of, and as it is, is made up for by his trickiness and deadly shot at goal. One great fault of our forwards is that they lay too far back; if they laid well up (something similar to 74th H. L. I. of '92 and '93 fame) many a combined rush would result in a goal, our half-backs and back can do all that is required of them for the defence of their own goal. Having said all that is in my limited knowledge of the game, I should wish to hear of others' opinions of my proposed team.

I am yours, &c.,
ACHILLES.

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"Under the Punkah."

—o—

BEING NOTES OF THE RIGHT WING AT SHAHJAHANPUR.

DESPITE the damp, the heat, mosquitoes, prickly heat and a few other minor inconveniences Shahjahanpur is looking up. Last month produced two Bumblepuppy (whatever that may be) Gymkhanas, in which there were events for the men in addition to the other usual things. Also a five-a-side football tournament which caused a considerable amount of excitement and enthusiasm and which was won by "C" Company's team. Then the Sergeants had their return shooting match with the Officers, and there has been a cricket revival, the ground being in such a tempting condition after having recovered from its heavy soaking.

The shooting match took place during one of the first breaks in the rains, Tuesday, 8th ultimo. Firing commenced soon after four o'clock, and even with this early start it was quite dusk before the match could be finished. The day was not at all a good one for firing, as a perusal of the scores will show; there was a strong and gusty wind, especially during the earlier part of the afternoon, which affected the firing considerably. The match resulted in a win for the non-commissioned officers (who were "At Home" on the range) by a somewhat substantial majority.

OFFICERS *versus* SERGEANTS.

Sergeants.				
Color-Sergeant R. Gilmour	29	29	26	84
Sergeant J. Ewan	22	31	29	82
„ C. Johnstone ...	31	32	19	82
Color-Sergeant R. Mitchell	27	27	24	78
Sergeant J. Durnan ...	22	31	24	77
„ R. Dunkeld ...	26	29	21	76
Color-Sergeant T. Chaplain	26	25	24	75
Sergeant R. Miller	26	26	16	67
„ W. Stonor ...	18	18	24	60
„ F. Beavis	24	14	17	55
				736
Officers.				
2nd-Lieutenant H. M. Thomson	24	33	31	88
Lieutenant K. F. C. Marshall	23	25	30	78
„ C. A. H. Maclean	17	23	28	68
Mr. Simmons	20	22	24	66
„ Martin	22	32	11	65
Major Wilson, R. A. M. C....	21	23	17	61
Captain F. C. Jackson ...	23	13	21	57
2nd-Lieutenant J. Kennedy	26	15	17	52
„ „ O. C. Herbert	19	12	15	46
Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish	21	15	4	40
				621

On the Thursday following (10th ultimo) the first Gymkhana was held. The wing were out in full force, especially "D" Company, who took full advantage of the proximity of their barrack to the Race Course, the flat roofed out-houses of the "jungle" bungalows affording excellent posts of vantage, of which "D," fresh from their annual gymnastic training, were not slow to avail themselves. In addition to the wing there were the usual large crowds of natives who seemed much interested in what was going on, even to the extent of occasionally speculating a little on the "Totalisator," which, engineered by two energetic non-commissioned officers, appeared to thrive.

The two most important events came to the wing. Lieutenant Kennedy won his race by barely a neck but in capital style, whilst Lieutenant Maclean had no great difficulty in bringing *Snippet* past the winning post well ahead of all the others.

The Secretary of the Meeting, Mr. Murray, D. S. P., could certainly congratulate himself upon the success of Shahjahanpur's first Gymkhana; his efforts to kill dull care have been much appreciated by everyone, proved by the number of entries, sixteen pairs, for the men's three-legged race. The smart looking native constable who kept the ground too gave quite an air of importance to the course.

The second meeting, held on the 21st August, was if anything a greater success than the first—at any rate there were more events and they were more exciting. In the "quarter mile" for the men there were twenty-one entries and the race was a capital and exciting one, Mossman, who hung back at the start, seeming to win by only superhuman intervention, but he came in like an express train and passed his leaders in the final twenty yards with the greatest ease. The natives were almost as excited over the Sub-Inspectors' Race, which was somewhat accentuated by the "favourite" *not* winning. All the other horse races were good and the wing again fortunate. Lieutenant Herbert riding two winners and Lieutenant Kennedy one.

Details of the five-a-side foot-ball tournament are given in another column, so it is unnecessary to particularise here, except perhaps to again allude to the kindness of the originators of the tournament. The cricket match of the month was between a wing team and the members of the Shahjahanpur Station Club, the latter being victorious by the narrow margin of two runs. This match had been preceded by one in which the non-commissioned officers of the wing matched themselves against the Club representatives, with results hardly so satisfactory as the non commissioned officers might have wished. Altogether Shahjahanpur has had quite a busy August, and with the improvement in weather, and the slight decrease in temperature that may be soon expected, there is the promise of even a busier September.

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Few changes have taken place in the wing during the past month, which still numbers just over four hundred men. Some casuals recently completed their annual musketry course and hardly any men now remain unexercised. The hospital is comparatively empty and invalids are few. The wing is now commanded by a field officer, though a change is shortly expected, as Major Robinson will in all probability go home to the first battalion on account of his promotion.

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Gymkhanas at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

FIRST GYMKHANA.

1ST—POLO BALL RACE.

2nd-Lieutenant Hersert's *Nun* 1

2ND—P. O. BIKE RACE.

2nd-Lieutenant Thomson 1

3RD—QUARTER MILE PONY SCURRY.

2nd-Lieutenant Kennedy's Dk. Ch. C. B. M. *Rachel* Owner 1

Mr. Murray's G. C. B. H *Scamp*, 13-3½, Mr. Ellis ... 2

4TH—THREE-LEGGED RACE.

Private Cairns and Tawse, "D" Company 1

5TH—BALL AND BUCKET RACE.

Mr. Stiffe's R. C. B. H. *Snippet*, Owner 1

6TH—DISTANCE HANDICAP FOR GALLOWAYS.

Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean's B. C. B. H. *Snippet*, 13-3, Owner 1

7TH—FLAT RACE FOR NATIVE POLICE.

SECOND GYMKHANA.

1ST—LIME CUTTING AND TENT PEGGING WITH SWORD.

Mr. Macleod 1

2ND—RING TILTING IN BIKES.

Mr. Alexander 1

3RD—GALLOWAY RACE—HALF MILE (HANDICAP).

Lieut. Kennedy's Ch. C. B. M. *Rachel*, 13-3 (scratch), Owner 1

4TH—HALF MILE FOOT RACE FOR GARRISON (HANDICAP).

Private Mossman, "B" Company (scratch) 1

„ Cairns, "D" „ (7 yards) 2

„ Russell, "B" „ (30 yards) 3

5TH—HURDLE RACE FOR GALLOWAYS (1 MILE HANDICAP).

Mr. Stiffe's G. A. H. *Jupiter*, 14-1½ (scratch), Owner 1

6TH—VISITING RACE FOR ALL GALLOWAYS.

2nd-Lieut. Herbert's B. C. M. G., *Nun*, 13-3, Owner ... 1

7TH—HORSE RACE FOR SUB-INSPECTORS OF POLICE (QUARTER MILE).

Sub-Inspector Abdul Karrim's *Haddian*, Owner ... 1

8TH—CONSOLATION RACE FOR ALL GALLOWAYS.

2nd-Lieut. Herbert's R. C. B. H. *Strawberry*, 13-3, Owner 1

—:o:—

Cricket at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

SHAHJAHANPUR CLUB.

Major S. L. Robinson, b Russell	0
2nd-Lieut. O. C. Herbert, b Stevenson	9
Lieut. K. F. C. Marshall, b Russell	0
2nd-Lieut. J. Kennedy, b Russell	0
Mr. F. S. Anderson, b Russell	14
„ C. L. Alexander, c Atherton, b Russell	23
Lieut. C. A. H. Maclean, b Russell	12
Captain F. L. Jackson, c Atherton, b Russell	15
Major Wilson, R. A. M. C., b Kelley	0
Mr. N. C. Stiffe, b Russell	1
2nd-Lieut H. M. Thomson, not out	0
Extras	2
Total	76

WING TEAM.

Pte. Ewing, b Maclean	0
Corporal Kelley, c. Alexander, b Maclean	2
Pte. Atherton, b Maclean	12
Sergeant Daniel, c Herbert, b Alexander	16
„ Stonor, b Anderson	12
Pte. Stevenson, run out	9
Corporal Mahoney, b Maclean	5
Pte Mossman, run out	0
„ Forbes, c Alexander, b Maclean	8
„ Russell, c Jackson, b Anderson	2
„ Logan, not out	0
Extras	13
Total	14

—:o:—

Five-a-Side Football Tournament at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

ON the plains in the month of August! You wouldn't believe it, would you? But it's a fact!

Two enthusiastic sportsmen, Mr. Alexander, Assistant Magistrate, and Mr. Simmons, of Rosa, organised and arranged the tournament and supplemented their task by providing a substantial prize for the winning team. Their efforts and kindness were rewarded by a series of most excellent and exciting games, for despite the season, of the year the twenty players were remarkably fit, more especially the winners, who had been training quietly and carefully for some time beforehand and were therefore only reaping the reward of their labours in securing the prize.

The tournament took place on the Club ground on 26th August. The drawings were arranged for 5 o'clock, and by that hour there was quite a large crowd around the ground anxiously awaiting developments. The draws resulted in "A" being matched against "D," whilst the "favourites," "C," were to do battle with their antagonists on many a hard-fought field—"B."

The ground at first marked out was rather a small one, so at the request of the teams a full-sized ground, affording a much better game, was reverted to. The goals were of the usual size, and of the usual value, whilst a minor point was to be awarded for "corners." Seven-and-a-half minutes was to be played each way.

At 5-15 P.M. "A" and "D" took the field, the teams being:—

"*D*" *Company*.—Sergeant Daniel, Lce.-Corporal Houston, Privates McMaster, McGregor and White.

"*A*" *Company*.—Privates Quinn, Stewart Forbes, Lce.-Corporal Wilson and Private Dick.

Referee.—Mr. Alexander.

"D" kicked off, but "A" soon possessed themselves of the ball and Forbes scored neatly. From the centre McGregor took the ball up the field for "D" and had hard lines in shooting. Then "A" pressed again, but Sergeant Daniel

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cleared well more than once, and the ball again getting into "A's" half, resulted in the "Jungle" representatives getting a corner. Ends were changed and McGregor again had hard lines in shooting. Then Pihla's turn again came, but they could do nothing for some time against "D's" defence; perseverance was at last rewarded, however, a long shot dropping into "D's" goal over the custodian's head. "A" now had the game well in hand, but "D" in no way relaxed their efforts, and but for the good play of Dick in goal would no doubt have scored. The whistle sounded, however, with the scores unaltered:—

"A" Company ... ... 2 goals
"D" „ ... ... 1 corner.

"B" and "C" now took the field, and although the former were somewhat a scratch team, they played a hard game and their defeat was in no way a disgrace. The favourites were not at all at home at first and just after starting Russell for "B" had hard lines; then another opportunity was lost and "C" commenced to settle down. Their forwards combined and Hurry scored with a good shot. "B" rose to the occasion, however, and Russell equalised a moment before half-time.

The "Bricks" were in good form re-starting, but their opponents would concede only corners, which proved unproductive. A defensive game was of little avail, however, and "C" left the field with an advantage of two corners. Scores:

"C" Company ... ... 1 goal, 2 corners.
"B" „ ... ... 1 goal.

The teams were as follows:—

"*C*" *Company.*—Privates Clements, Hurry, McLean, Kennedy and Gibson.

"*B*" *Company.*—Corporal Maskell and Privates Russell, Logan, Mossman and Thomas.

Referee.—Mr. Anderson.

FINAL TIE.

After a longish though necessary interval, to refresh and repose, the teams for the final appeared. Amidst cheers "C" took their ground, whilst "A," as they faced their opponents, also met with similar encouragement from their supporters.

The teams were as before and lined up as follows:—

	"C" GIBSON. KENNEDY. HURRY.	
CLEMENTS.		McLEAN.
QUINN.	STEWART WILSON. DICK. "A."	FORBES.

Referee.—Mr. Alexander.

"C" commenced to press at once, and their centre sent in a hard shot which went past. "A" retaliated, and Kennedy left his goal to save, but McLean covered him and kept out a straight return; then Dick had his work cut out and play became very exciting and fast. From mid-field Hurry ran up, and the goal being for a moment at his mercy he did not lose the opportunity. "C's" success met with the entire approval of their supporters. "A" tried hard from the kick-off and pressed repeatedly. Fast and even play then continued till half-time. The second half proved less exciting, as both teams began to show signs of some "wear," which was not unnatural considering the fast play of the first half and previous games. "C" kicked out once or twice, but they had the best of the play as their training told. No additions were made to the score, which stood when the whistle blew.

"C" Company ... . 1 goal.
"A" „ ... ... *Nil.*

"C" Company thoroughly deserved their victory; they played and won two hard matches, and their training stood them in good stead. Hurry played the best game in their forward line, and was responsible for all scoring, whilst Gibson and Kennedy played safely and hard at critical moments. Many thanks are due to the organisers of the tournament and to the Referees, who had to work almost as hard as the players themselves.

———:o:———

Temperance at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

I. O. R. Excelsior Tent No. 190.

OWING to unforeseen circumstances, over which the Editor assures me he has had no control, my contribution to the August number of the "*Thin Red Line*" was "crowded out," despite the fact that it contained news of more than passing interest to all good Rechabites. This being the case, there is nothing now but to write somewhat retrospectively of tent events, commencing from the 20th July last, on which date there was a most excellent tea and concert. It is really difficult to say which was the best—the tea or the concert. The tea, as the "Parrot" remarked last month, "wis graun'," and as the bird "only says what it hears," information from it must be reliable, and I can therefore, I think, quote no better authority, unless I refer you to the "buidy," also alluded to by the same communicative bird, who "took ow're muckle o' it," a conclusive proof of its, the tea's, excellence. After the tea, to which many members of our sister order, the I. O. G. T., and other friends had been made most welcome, came the concert, and I need only mention that it was as successful as other previous entertainments in the "Mutty" Barracks have been. A long list of the names of the singers and their songs would perhaps not interest every one, so I will

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refrain from giving them, but it may be mentioned that the usual singers sang their best songs in their best style whilst interspersed with the songs were recitations and words of advice on temperance by able speakers.

A vote of thanks to the Committee, *viz.*, Brothers Develin, Thomas, Donnelly, Dolan and A. McIntyre, who certainly deserve all the praise awarded, followed by the "Queen," brought a most pleasant evening to a close.

The following week another most enjoyable evening was spent by the members of "Excelsior." Brothers Hanlon and Develin were responsible for its arrangement and success, the former being a host in himself; Brother Hanlon will shortly be leaving "hameward boun," when regiment Rechabitism will lose a very staunch supporter and "Excelsior" a model brother. During last month many more enjoyable and profitable evenings and sessions were held, and whilst regretting the loss of members of long standing, the inevitable however, it is a certain amount of gratification to know that recruits are slowly, but nevertheless surely, coming up for initiation. With such attractions as are offered, however, "Excelsior" Tent cannot be anything but a success, and can the average progress of the last few months but be relied upon, the tent should find no difficulty in the very near future of resuming the proud position it once held as the strongest in India.

"EXCELSIOR."

:o:

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT it has been sufferin' frae a bad cauld.

That it had almaist lost its speech.

That it maun be gettin' deef as weel.

That the Corporals are daen fine.

That they hae their ain dance noo.

That a bottle o' Eau de Cologne is a necessity.

That there's been bags o' promotion lately.

That it's no goin' tae chance the six years abroad hookum.

That twa weeks in bed abroad are better than twa nichts at hame, wi' a pack thrown in.

That it didna ken Shahjahanpur wis sic an interestin' place.

That it's sort o' sandwich weather we hae at present, twa days rain, then ane day fair.

WHAT THE PARROT'S COUSIN AT SHAHJAHANPUR IS SAYING.

That the officers' and sergeants' have hed anither shootin' match.

That the sergeants' again managed tae square the mairkers appiarently.

That the wing his had bags o' sport

That it wis a' frae ootside.

That the five-a-side wis sair wark.

That trainin' told in the long run.

That all the loosers had hard lines (of course!—*Ed.*)

That the organisers o' the tournament deserve tae be well thanket.

That they wrought as hard as the players—a'maist.

That it disna' ken what a "Bumble Puppy" is ava.

That there wis certainly a lot o' *kuttas* about if they hed onythin' tae dae wi' it.

That it didna' run in ony o' the races itsel.'

That the auld favourite won hands down.

That he didna' luke like it at first.

That the Gran' Stand wis weel patronised by "D" Company.

That there wis no charge.

That the "Fertiliser" wis fertile—for twa budies at ony rate.

That there hae been ane or twa guid creekit matches tae.

That the Station Club ken ower muckle aboot it.

That it believes the wing is gaun, tae break oot.

That it hears there are tae be "games" next month.

That the "game" wul be findin' the prizes, accordin' tae a' accounts.

That it's hard lines bein' sae far frae hame.

That it's no awa' tae the Transvaal yet.

That it believes it's first cousin at Dublin is for it.

That it hopes so.

That some budies dinna' hope onythin' o' the kind.

That havin' "six abroad" makes a' the difference.

That it's dangerous tae mention the figure "seventeen."

:o:

In the Breach of the Secundra Bagh.

(*From the "Statesman."*)

SIR,—I have lately been reading the newly published "Recollections of a Highland Subaltern," by Lieutenant-Colonel William Gordon Alexander, late of the 93rd Highlanders; and of all the accounts, whether as reminiscences or otherwise, published about the capture of the Secundra Bagh at Lucknow, on the 16th November 1857, this book, although purporting to be compiled from a diary written almost daily at the time, is the most inaccurate. In fact on page 94, to prove the incorrectness of the statements recorded as history by Colonel Malleson, Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander, in a most dogmatic manner, goes so far as to emphasise his assertion by printing in small capitals, "as recorded by me on the spot at the time." After emphasising his contradiction of Colonel Malleson's statement in this prominent manner, the author goes on to add, "not my "reminiscence of what occurred, put down on paper "twenty years, ten years, ten months, or even ten weeks "afterwards." Such dogmatic assertions tempt one to ask the gallant Colonel if this emphasising in small capitals is intended to make the general reader believe that Lieutenant Alexander there and then, at the very moment, had time to write up his precious diary. If so, he must have been assisted by the Recording Angel, for no other officer of whatever rank, nor any private soldier who took part in the fight in the Secundra Bagh,

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had time to there and then write up a diary, whether on "Mutineer Drum-Head," or in a note-book. But let that pass. Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander backs up his diary, imaginary or otherwise, by a wholly imaginary plan of the Secundra Bagh. This plan, to which Colonel Alexander refers with so much pride from time to time, is about as much like the ground-plan of the Secundra Bagh as it is like Windsor Park. Fortunately proof of this assertion lies ready to hand, since the greater part of the outer wall of the Secundra Bagh is still standing, and any one visiting Lucknow can go and see it. The garden of the Secundra Bagh was not a square, but an oblong of about 160 yards long by 80 yards wide, and the walls not only at the turnings but all along might be described as a series of semi-circles, and certainly not straight walls with pentagons at the turnings. In a footnote, page 78, Colonel Alexander calls in question the accuracy of the sketch of the Secundra Bagh made by Colonel D. S. Dodgson, then Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army, late General Sir D. S. Dodgson, K.C. B. These sketches, dedicated to General Outram, were undoubtedly made in 1858, and on the spot. Colonel Alexander backs his assertion of the incorrectness of the sketch of the Secundra Bagh on the strength of a photograph of the gateway taken by Bourne and Shepherd about 1863. On the strength of this photograph, admittedly taken six years afterwards, Colonel Alexander, in his usual dogmatic style, pronounces Colonel Dodgson's sketch to be wrong, because he shows four towers at the gate, whereas the photograph shows only three. Colonel Alexander apparently overlooks the fact that the tower not shown in the photograph is the one next to the side from which the assault took place, which was greatly shattered by round shot, several shells being fired into it to silence the fire of the mutineers, who from the upper storey of that tower, were picking off the gunners of our artillery, and the tower had fallen before the photograph was taken. In proof of this fact and of the correctuess of Colonel Dodgson's sketch the foundations of the fourth tower remain to this day. Again on page 78, Colonel Alexander asserts that there was no tall grass anywhere inside the Secundra Bagh. If Colonel Alexander did not see the tall grass, *very tall*, sufficient to conceal a tall man standing, I most emphatically assert that Colonel Alexander could not have entered the Secundra Bagh by the main breach, but he must have got in by the small hole, the wall around which is still standing, by which Captain Burroughs entered.

The storming of the Secundra Bagh has been so often described, that I will not take up your space by contradicting all the inaccuracies in Colonel Alexander's book. But coming from one who kept a diary written not only on the battlefield, but, as is to be presumed from the statement at page 94, actually when the battle was being fought and that by a combatant officer, I must say that the inaccuracies are *prodigious*, and before I leave the Secundra Bagh I will notice one or two of them. In his plan Colonel Alexander misplaces the position of the 4th Punjab Infantry and the Native Sappers. Instead of being on the right, as shown in this imaginary plan, they occupied the extreme left of the infantry, on the left of the guns, and the position marked as occupied by the 4th Punjab Infantry was occupied by the three or four companies of the 53rd regiment. Another fact. The 4th Punjab were first ordered to storm, because Sir Colin wished to husband the small force of Europeans as much as possible, and the Regiment advanced bravely until their European officers, Lieutenants Paul and Oldfield, were shot down, and this caused the Punjabis, if not to halt, at least to hesitate, although called on to follow by Subadar Gokul Singh who rushed to the front. It was then that Sir Colin turned to Colonel Ewart and called "Ewart, bring on the tartan! Let my own lads at them!" When the bugler at Sir Colin's side, either Dawson or MacLeod, I could not now be positive, sounded the 93rd call and the advance, and the pipers headed by Pipe-Major John MacLeod, struck up the charge, the whole seven companies gave a yell of pent-up rage like hounds slipped from the leash, and dashed for the breach, and the 4th Punjabis mingled with the 93rd headed by Subadar Gokal Singh. I may mention that from the time we first met at Cawnpore, the 93rd and 4th Punjabis had formed a brotherhood or *camaraderie*, and used to share each other's grog, and the rank-and-file of the 93rd were not by any means jealous of them, but respected their soldierly qualities and were glad of their assistance. This is a fact, whatever Colonel Alexander may assert to the contrary. Subadar Gokal Singh, having a good start, reached the breach—not Captain Burroughs' hole—along with the foremost of the 93rd. Colonel Alexander flatly contradicts this, page 86, and asserts that "No native soldier of any race reached the breach, first, nor to my personal knowledge even attempted to enter it for more than twenty minutes after the assault was delivered, and I much doubt if any native did so even then." Such a dogmatic statement as this almost invites one to ask the gallant Colonel if he stayed twenty minutes by the breach after the assault was delivered to write up his diary?

Again, his assertions regarding Captain Lumsden are also wrong. Captain Lumsden entered the breach alongside of Colonel Ewart, who was in command of the seven companies forming head-quarters. Colonel A. S. Leith being detached as Brigadier, in command of the force sent to assault the barracks, of which three companies of the 93rd, the Grenadier Company under Captain Middleton, No. 1 under Captain Clarke, and No. 2 under Captain Drummond Stewart, formed part, and neither Colonel Hay nor any of those three companies had returned when the assault on the Secundra Bagh took place. So Colonel Ewart had the honour of commanding the head-quarters of the 93rd on the assault on the Secundra Bagh, and I don't think either Colonel Hay or any of the three companies returned till after the place was taken and the muster roll was being called on the spare ground to the right of the gate of the Secundra Bagh as you enter it. But I will not be positive on this point, because I was well to the front in the inner court of the main bungalow on the east, and did not see what took place at either the gate, after it was opened, or at the breach.

Before leaving the Secundra Bagh I must notice one little matter on which many of the inaccuracies are founded. On page 81, Colonel Alexander disposes of what he calls "A theory I have seen advanced that there was more than one breach when the assault took place." That is not *a theory but a fact* which can still be proven up to the hilt from the state of the walls as they stand at this day, as well as from sketches made at the time and from photographs taken within a year after. I have already stated that the walls of the Secundra Bagh might correctly be described as a series of semi-circles and towers, each semi-circle being joined by about twenty yards of straight wall, and the turnings are all semi-circular and not pentagons as stated by Colonel Alexander. Sufficient of the walls, as I have said, are still standing to prove this to any one visiting Lucknow, who will thus see that the plan published by Colonel Alexander is wholly imaginary. Now for the *theory* so dogmatically denied. There was a breach of at least nine feet wide, but the walls being very tough, part of the top remained as an arch over the breach. And there was a hole almost round,

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and from its condition even to-day it cannot have been more than about two feet in diameter in 1857. This hole was driven through the semi-circle next to the turning from the gate, and could not be seen from the real breach, which was in the straight wall joining the first and second semi-circles from the corner one. And this hole was in front of Captain Burroughs' Company, No. 6, which was actually on the left of No. 7, Captain Dawson's Company, because, as the companies defiled out of the village, each company took shelter, as they best could, behind the mud bank topped with high coarse grass, and Burroughs' Company got to the left of Dawson's. Captain Burroughs was therefore exactly opposite the round hole still existing with the walls intact round it. In that semi-circle the defenders had run up a temporary guard-room, which they were obliged to vacate after the round shot pierced the wall of the semi-circle, and it was through this hole, still existing but now about four feet in diameter, that Captain Burroughs entered the Secundra Bagh, and he may have been followed by Lieutenant Alexander and a few of the men of his Company. I also believe that Burroughs correctly claims to have been the first man to enter the Secundra Bagh, because the hole by which he entered was at least fifty yards nearer to where Burroughs started from than the large breach was by which Lieutenant Cooper, Colonel Ewart, Captains Lumsden and Dawson, with a large number of men, *both Punjabis and Highlanders*, got in. Three men abreast could enter by the breach, but it was from four-and-a-half to five feet from the ground, and it was therefore difficult to get up without assistance. Captain Burroughs and Lieutenant Alexander evidently believed that only this hole existed as a breach, but any one seeing the size of the hole even now, forty-two years after it was made, must admit that no General of the least experience would have ordered an assault by such a small breach.

That there was a hole, still existing, and a comparatively large breach, can be proven, first, from Colonel Dodgson's official sketch; secondly, from photographs taken by an Italian artist, I forget his name, who visited Lucknow with Lady Canning in November, 1859, and made sketches and took photographs for both Lord and Lady Canning. These photographs and sketches are still in existence, and those taken of the Secundra Bagh show both the hole and the breach. Thirdly, Mr. Danenburgh, a photographer, who is still living in Mussoorie, visited both Cawnpore and Lucknow shortly after the capture of the latter in March, 1858, and took photographs of all the principal places, and his photographs of the Secundra Bagh show both the hole and the breach. Lastly, I myself went over the ground of the assault on the Secundra Bagh on the 16th November, 1894, accompanied by Maior M. W. Findlay, of the Rajpootana-Malva Railway Volunteers, who was a Sergeant of the 93rd with the Ammunition Guard. The spare ammunition for each regiment was carried on camels and these were kept with the fighting line. The proverb says that "The onlooker sees most of the game," and Findlay was an onlooker from the village, and saw the whole of the assault, and he told me that he saw Captain Burroughs rush to the front and leap through the little hole, and that he was followed by a few men of his company, and amongst those few must have been his senior lieutenant, now Colonel Alexander. I would, therefore, humbly advise Colonel Alexander, should he ever write another book, not to be quite so positive that he is right and every other writer wrong.

I will now direct attention to the plan of the Shahnujeef, page 115. This is also incorrect. The village where the greater part of the 93rd took shelter ought to be shown more to the left, on the same face as the gate. The tomb again is incorrectly shown with two doors to it. There was only one door to the tomb on the side facing the Goomti. The dome of the tomb is large in diameter and comparatively flat, and its copper spire had only recently been gilded and a rope ladder was still attached to the spire, and by that ladder Lieutenant and Adjutant McBean, Sergeant Hutchinson, and Drummer Ross ascended and signalled to the Residency by the Queen's colour and a Highland feather bonnet, the feather bonnet being necessary because the mutineers fought under their British colours (which had been blessed or consecrated by Brahmin priests) and they could use these colours for the purpose of deceiving the British. There were no towers or minarets or anything else on the gate of the Shahnujeef, either in 1857 or now, but the rope ladder is shown on the dome of the tomb in Colonel Dodgson's sketch of the Shahnujeef.

I will only notice one other mistake, which is not by any means the last, of Colonel Alexander's book, page 285. He makes a mistake which is unpardonable in an officer who kept a diary. This mistake is a reflection on the character of Colonel Anthony Stirling, "Old Giglamps," as he calls him. Colonel Stirling was always nicknamed "Old Speckie" by the rank-and-file of the 93rd in the Crimea. Now every one in the 93rd knew that Colonel Stirling, who was Aide-de-Camp to Sir Colin in the Crimea, did not form one of his staff in India, nor was he in India during the Mutiny; therefore he could not have been guilty of "picking up bargains" by purchasing cheap loot at Lucknow. If space admitted I could show many more glaring inaccuracies in the gallant Colonel's book. But as the Hindoostanee proverb has it, *Aql ko ishara bus hai*. There are, however, excuses for some of the mistakes. If it was impossible, as one of the Judges of the High Court asserted the other day in the assault appeal case, to get any two witnesses to agree in their evidence in the case of the murder of Mr. Justice Norman, which took place in the presence of men used every day to weigh evidence and to sift fact from fiction, it is hopeless to expect to get two witnesses to exactly agree as to what happened in such an action as the assault on the Secundra Bagh. But this is not the case when plans are produced to support such rash assertions, and I emphatically report that Colonel Alexander's plan of the Secundra Bagh is no more like the place than it is like Windsor Park. I recollect something like it in an old family Bible belonging to my grandmother, as representing the Garden of Eden with Adam and Eve dressed as a quaker and quakeress walking up and down the garden.—Yours, etc.,

W. FORBES MITCHELL.

Calcutta, June 26.

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Bengal-Punjab Rifle Meeting, 1898-99.

—o—

IN the "Thin Red Line," for January last, but a casual mention of the performances of our representatives at the Meerut Meeting was made, as there were no startling scores made by any of "Ours" and no records of scores were available for reference.

Recently the report of the meeting has come to hand, and from it we are able to obtain a list of our prize-winners together with their scores.

Sergeant Soutar, it will be noticed, was our most successful competitor, his previous experience of the Meerut ranges no doubt standing him in good stead. Of our ten representatives but one was continuously pursued by ill-fortune, but the redoubtable tug-of-war team itself shall not drag from us his name.

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The following are the matches in which ours competed and obtained prizes:—

MATCH V.—"THE ELGIN MILLS."

900 *yards, Unlimited Entries.—H. P. S.=35 Points.*

	Order.	Points.
Sergeant J. Tyndall	21st	31

MATCH VI.—"THE MUIR MILLS" AGGREGATE.

Aggregate in Matches I to V.—H. P. A. S.=175 Points.

	Order.	Points.
Sergeant J. Tyndall	61st	154

MATCH VII.—"THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE."

500 *yards, British non-commissioned officers and men.—H. P. S.=35 Points.*

	Order.	Points.
Quartermaster-Sergeant L. Robertson ...	3rd	33

MATCH XI.—"THE NORTH-WEST SOAP COMPANY."

200 *yards standing.—H. P. S.=35 Points.*

	Order.	Points.
Sergeant J. Soutar	5th	30
„ K. Miller	6th	29
„ J. Hay	14th	29

MATCH XIV.—"THE VIZIANAGRAM."

800 *yards.—H. P. S.=35 Points.*

	Order.	Points.
Sergeant J. Soutar (bracketted)... ...	15th	30

MATCH XV.—"THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR (PUNJAB).

900 *yards.—H. P. S.=35 Points.*

	Order.	Points.
Colour-Sergeant R. Mitchell	5th	30

"THE CHAMPIONSHIP."

The aggregate in Matches VI to XV inclusive.—H. P. A. S.=350 Points.

	Order.	Points.
Sergeant J. Soutar	44th	273

MATCH XVI.—"THE MALER KOTLA."

150 *yards standing.*

Competitors to make the best score they can in one minute, running round a post, placed 10 yards in rear of firing point, after each shot.

	Order.	Points.
Sergeant J. Soutar	5th	27

MATCH XVII.—"HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S CUP."

200, 600 *and* 800 *yards.—H. P. S.=630 Points.*

	Order.	Points.
2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders ...	21st	=453

MATCH XXVI.—"THE KELLNER CUP."

200 *yards.—H. P. S.=35 Points.*

	Order.	Points.
Sergeant C. Johnstone	30th	32
2nd-Lieutenant H. M. Thomson	49th	31

:o:

PROGRAMME OF INDIAN RELIEFS, 1899—1900.

The following is the amended programme of Indian reliefs, a revision of the arrangements originally issued having been found necessary in consequence of the demand for reinforcements in South Africa.

OUTWARD.

Ship.	Leaves S'mpton.	Arrives Bombay.	Troops.
Dunera	7th Sept.	28th Sept.	Drafts.
Simla	22nd Sept.	13th Oct.	15th Hussars and drafts.
Dilwara	4th Oct.	27th Oct.	E. Battery, R.H.A., and drafts.
Nubia	14th Oct.	4th Nov.	No. 7 (Siege Train) Co. East. Div., R.G.A., to India; No. 13 Co. South. Div., R.G.A., to Malta; No. 16 Co. South. Div., R.G.A. (thence to Egypt); No. 16 Co. East. Div., R.G.A. (thence to India); also drafts.
Dunera	10th Nov.	1st Dec.	No. 15 (Siege Train) Co. South Div., R.G.A., and drafts.
Simla	21st Nov.	14th Dec.	Drafts.
Dilwara	6th Dec.	27th Dec.	Drafts.
Nubia	20th Dec.	10th Jan.	Drafts.
Dunera	10th Jan.	2nd Feb.	1st Bn. Essex Regt., and drafts.
Simla	21st Jan.	12th Feb.	Drafts.
Dilwara	4th Feb.	28th Feb.	Drafts.
Nubia	17th Feb.	10th Mar.	Drafts.

HOMEWARD.

Ship.	Leaves Bombay.	Arrives. Southampton.	Troops.
Dunera	5th Oct.	31st Oct.	1st Bn. Royal West Kent Regt. (to Aden); 2nd Bn. Derbysh. Regt. (Aden home); also details.
Simla	20th Oct.	10th Nov.	11th Hussars (to Egypt); 21st Lancers (Egypt home); also details.
Dilwara	3rd Nov.	24th Nov.	S. Battery, R.H.A., and details.
Nubia	11th Nov.	7th Dec.	No. 12 (Heavy) Co. East Div., R.G.A., (home); No. 3 Co. East. Div., R.G.A., (to Aden); No. 16 Co. South Div., R.G.A., (Aden to England); also details.
Dunera	8th Dec.	29th Dec.	No. 11 (Siege Train) Co. South. Div., R.G.A., and details.
Simla	21st Dec.	11th Jan.	Details.
Dilwara	3rd Jan.	24th Jan.	Details.
Nubia	17 Jan.	7th Feb.	No. 13 Co. East. Div. R.G.A. (to Malta); No. 24 Co. West. Div., R.G.A. (Malta home); also details.
Dunera	9th Feb.	2nd March	2nd Bn. Essex Regt., and details.
Simla	20th Feb.	13th March	Details.
Dilwara	7th Mar.	28th March	Details.
Nubia	17th Mar.	7th April	Details.

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93rd Highlanders Association entertained at Bardowie.

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(From a Scottish Paper).

ON the invitation of Captain Middleton and his good lady, the members of the 93rd Highlanders' Association and their wives and families drove out to Bardowie Castle, on Saturday afternoon, where they were entertained to all the elements necessary to a successful pic-nic. Three 'buses took the crowd, which included a number of Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans as well as others who had seen service on a later date. They drove from a point in George Square just a little to the east of the statue of their fine chief, Sir Colin Campbell, and accompanied by a first-rate piper, they reached Bardowie Castle after a beautiful drive. A finer day for the outing could hardly be conceived There was a strong breeze ; and although it was cloudy, and occasionally a bit dull, the sun pierced through from time to time, and everyone felt cheery. Captain Middleton, who was accompanied by his good lady, welcomed the visitors most heartily, and at once led the way to a large tent on the grounds, where all kinds of refreshments were served. Games and dancing followed, the host and hostess taking an active part in the promotion of the fun. The Castle itself, although not very large, is rather an intersting sight, and Mrs. Middleton kindly showed the crowd through the house, which contains many curiosities in the shape of weapons of war, &c.

It has already been indicated in this column that Captain Middleton was about to take up the duties of guide and counsellor to the 93rd Regimental Association, duties which since the start of the association were so faithfully discharged by the late Colonel Nightingale. There was a little business therefore attached to Saturday's pleasure at the Castle, and the gallant host presided at a committee meeting of which more will be heard later on. The business meeting was attended by such well-known veterans as Simpson (he has been very ill), Fulton, Michell, Smith, M'Kinley, Scott (Paisley), Martin and Scott (Strathbogie). President M'Kinley had drawn up a well-worded resolution for the consideration of their gallant chairman, and the gist of it was that the centenary of the muster of the 93rd Highlanders should be celebrated in due form, and that a military tournament or other display should be promoted, the proceeds to be devoted to relieving the wants of aged 93rd men. It was likewise decided that such a fund would be administered by at least three retired officers of the 93rd and the committee of the association. General Sir John Ewart, K.C.B., was unanimously elected honorary convener, and the other officers nominated were—Major-General Burroughs, Colonel Trotter, and Captain Campbell of Kilberry.

It is just about 99 years since the formation of the regiment, and we congratulate the committee of the 93rd Highlanders and their plucky president, Captain Middleton, upon their determination to celebrate the centenary of the old corps in a practical as well as an enjoyable fashion. There will be a lot to do, but there will be willing hands to do it, and that fact should encourage the executive in all their work.

Just before leaving the grounds at Bardowie, the whole company assembled in front of the Castle, where several very good speeches were heard. Sergeant-Major Smith spoke in an affectionate way of the loss they had sustained through the death of Colonel Nightingale, and the ready and willing way in which Captain Middleton had stepped forward to fill the breach. He fetched his audience, too, when he pointed out that although Mrs. Middleton had deprived the regiment of a good commanding officer she had atoned for that now by handing over her gallant husband to be the leader of the association. Mr. M'Kinley, who has taken over the post on the committee vacated by comrade Smith, thanked Captain and Mrs. Middleton for their great kindness that afternoon. He assured them that everyone had enjoyed themselves to their hearts' content, and he called for three cheers, which were heartily given. Captain Middleton referred to the fine spirit of *esprit de corps* which had always pervaded all ranks of the old corps. He had been taught long ago by Colonel Nightingale to believe that there was only one regiment in the British Army, that was the 93rd, and there was only one company in the 93rd, which, of course, was "A," or their own company. Captain Middleton wore couple of medals, one of which was earned for saving life near Gibraltar.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACTS FROM LONDON GAZETTE.

CAPTAIN S. L. Robinson to be Major, *vice* J. H. Campbell promoted, dated 27th June 1899.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Sergeants.—No. 3144, Lance-Sergeant W. G. Olden, "A" Company, dated 18th April; No. 4484, Lance-Sergeant P. G. Mathew, "E" Company, dated 7th July; No. 3531, Lance-Sergeant F. Marks, "H" Company, dated 11th July.

To be Corporals.—No. 5507, Lance-Corporal R. Houston, "D" Company, dated 10th May ; No. 4983, Lance-Corporal M. Rutherford, "E" Company, dated 30th June; No. 5256, Lance-Corporal T. Atkinson, "E" Company, dated 1st July ; No. 5180, Lance-Corporal W. Cockburn, "A" Company, dated 11th July ; No. 5115, Lance-Corporal R Jamieson, "G" Company, dated 2nd August.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Sergeant (With Pay of Rank).—No. 4806, Corporal C. Hearn, "G" Company, dated 21st April 1899, No. 3138, Corporal W. Fawcett, dated 7th July; No. 5530, Corporal S. Gurney, dated 11th July.

To be Lance-Corporal.—No 4878, Private J. McLachlan "H" Company, dated 2nd August 1899.

To be Bandsman.—No. 5164, Private C. Lewington, "F" Company.

To be Piper—No. 6566, Boy C. Hoy, "H" Company.

To be Drummer.—No. 6338, Private W. Balfour, "E" Company.

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PAY OF RANK.

Of Lance-Corporals.—No. 8499, Lance-Corporal D. Gordon, "B" Company, dated 30th June; No. 5551, Lance-Corporal W. Montgomery, "E" Company, dated 1st July; No. 5644, Lance-Corporal J. Munro, "H" Company, dated 11th July; No. 5945, Lance-Corporal A. McCrae, "H" Company, dated 2nd August; No. 6035, Lance-Corporal G. Richardson, dated 2nd August; No. 6063, Lance-Corporal H. Munro, "H" Company, dated 22nd August.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5321, Private P. Allan; No. 6202, Private J. McInnes and No. 6292, Private J. Sutherland, "G" Company, dated 7th August; No. 5128, Private F. Cairns, No. 5724, Private J. Lamb, and No. 5838, Private C. Fraser, "E" Company, dated 21st August; No. 5993, Private G. Sherman, No. 6302, Private J. Sutherland, No. 6415, Private J. Caskie, and No. 5853, Private J. Brown (whilst employed as School Assistant) "G" Company, dated 22nd August.

EMPLOYMENT.

To be School Assistant.—No. 5853, Private J. Brown, "G" Company.

To be Acting School-master to Wing.—No. 5048 Private T. Hamill, "A" Company, and appointed Lance-Corporal whilst so employed.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem:—

"B" Company.
No. 4379, Pte. J. Logan.

"D" Company.
No. 4977, Pte. W. Connell.

"E" Company.
No. 4618, Pte. J. Adams.

"H" Company.
No. 4073, Pte. J. Gillon.

Restored 2d. per diem:—

"C" Company.
No. 3538, Pte. J. Farquharson.

"D" Company.
No. 4183, Pte. J. Burke.

Granted 1d. per diem:—

"B" Company.
No. 5952, Pte. J. Muir. | No. 5410, Pte. H. Bartholomew.

"G" Company.
No. 5286, Pte. H. Eite. | No. 6248, Pte. J. Murray.
„ 6238, „ J. Smith. | „ 6106, „ J. Blackie.

Restored 1d. per diem:—

"B" Company.
No. 4296, Pte. W. Ewing.

"C" Company.
No. 5729, Pte. J. Barnett. | No. 4715, Pte. J. Miller.

"H" Company.
No. 5428, Pte. T. Brown.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted First Class Certificates:—
No. 3151, Sergeant C. Stubbs, "H" Company.
„ 5562, Private J. McNair, "E" „
„ 5048, „ J. Hamill, "A" „

MASTER TAILOR'S CERTIFICATES.

Granted a certificate qualifying him to perform the duties of Master Tailor, dated Alipur, 19th July 1899.
No. 2951, Private H. Bryson, "H" Company.

TRANSFERS.

To 1st Battalion Black Watch:—
No. 6232, Private J. Kay, "E" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service with the colours:—
No. 3692, Sergeant W. Stonor, "B" Company.
„ 3628, Corporal F. A. Poole, "D" „

To complete twelve years' Service:—
No. 4019, Private T. Berkenshaw, "E" Company.
„ 6338, Drummer W. Balfour, "E" „

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

"A" COMPANY.

		£	s.	d.
Best Shots of Corporals and Privates.				
No. 5357,	Pte. J. Stewart	0	15	0
„ 3144,	Lce.-Sergt W. Olden	0	10	0
„ 3022,	Lce.-Corporal W. Moat	0	8	0
„ 4531,	Pte. C. Armour	0	6	0
„ 3896,	„ A. McLennon	0	5	0
„ 5734,	„ A. Gibson	0	5	0
„ 5022,	„ J. McLachlan	0	5	0
„ 3596,	Corpl. A. Rankin	0	3	6
„ 3852,	Pte. D. Campbell	0	3	3
Most Improved Shots.				
No. 3067,	Pte. D. J. Smith	0	6	0
„ 5592,	„ P. Flynn	0	5	0
„ 5734,	„ A. Gibson	0	5	0
„ 5180,	Lce.-Cpl. W. Cockburn	0	4	3
Best Shot No. 6 Practice.				
No. 5160,	Pte. W. Riddock	0	5	0¼
Best Shot of Sergeants.				
No. 3236,	Sergeant R. Miller	0	10	1½
Best Shooting Sections, Table "B."				
Nos. 1 and 4 Sections		2	0	6
Best Section No. 14 Practice.				
No. 4 Section		1	0	3
Commanders of Best Sections.				
Colour Sergeant R. Mitchell		0	2	6½
Sergeant F. Beavis		0	2	6¼

"G" COMPANY.

		£	s.	d.
Best Shooting Section Table "B."				
No. 5 Section		2	15	6
Best Section, No. 14 Practice.				
No. 3 Section		1	7	9
Commander of the Best Section.				
Corporal F. A. Poole		0	6	11¼

"H" COMPANY.

		£	s.	d.
Best shot of Privates and Corporals.				
No. 3531,	Lance-Sergeant F. Marks	0	15	0
„ 6392,	Private G. Rarity	0	10	9
„ 6448,	„ C. Turnbull	0	9	9
„ 1889,	„ J. Morrison	0	9	9
„ 5638,	„ J. Clarke	0	8	9
„ 4754,	„ W. Hawthorn	0	7	9
„ 4301,	Corporal J. Gilbert	0	6	9
Most improved shots.				
No. 6205,	Private J. Clarke	0	6	9
„ 5279,	„ T. Pollock	0	5	9
„ 4682,	„ A. Gray	0	4	9
„ 6344,	„ F. Eskew	0	3	9
„ 5029,	„ A. Scott	0	3	9
Best shot of Sergeants.				
No. 3146,	Sergeant C. Clarke...	0	12	4½
Best shot No. 6 Practice.				
No. 3531,	Lance-Sergeant F. Marks	0	6	2½
Best Shooting Section, Table "B."				
No. 4 Section		2	9	6
Best Shooting Section, No. 14 Practice.				
No. 4 Section		1	4	9
Commander of Best Shooting Section		0	6	2¼

1ST PARTY OF RECRUITS.

		£	s.	d.
Best Shot of party.				
No. 5758,	Private E. Parry, "D" Company ...	0	4	6
„ 5659,	„ H. Darwood, "C" „ ...	0	2	0

"Take his Shoes off."

—o—

Lives there a Swad with soul so dead;
Who never to the Sergeant said,
When shunted from his little bed
For drunk; you——, ——, you,——,

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McEWAN'S.

The Soldier's Beer.

IN WOOD

Direct from the SHIP to the MESS.

IN HOGSHEADS.

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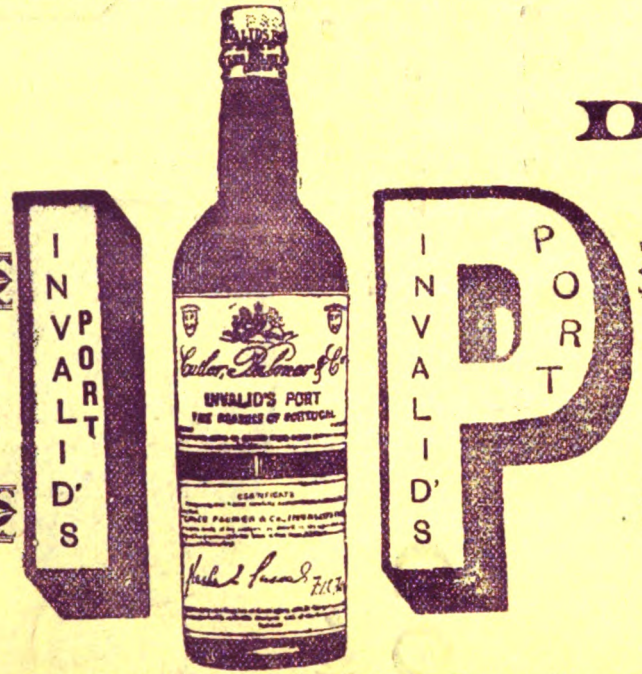

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Professor CASSAL has analysed our Invalid's Wine, and his certificate of purity is attached to every bottle we ship. Our Wine has fraudulent imitations, we therefore ask that those who order this particular Wine of ours should see that the bottles bear the Professor's name in addition to our own.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 6—Vol. V. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—OCTOBER 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

FOR the past month Chaubattia has been at its very best and has made ample amends for any shortcomings of the earlier portion of our sojourn here. The veriest grumbler must perforce be silent in the enjoyment of our present truly delightful weather. Not a few of us will be sorry, in spite of past drawbacks, when, on the 31st instant, we vacate Chaubattia for the plains (for at last, after changes and rumours of changes innumerable, the date of our departure has been definitely settled).

* * * * * *

Nor have other enjoyments been wanting. With four really good "gaffs," regimental and otherwise, practice dances and quadrille parties, and a capital football match with the East Lancashires in which our team played a winning game throughout, to say nothing of other amusements and occupations, we have not had time to get dull. On another page will be found accounts of our entertainments with programmes of the "gaffs"

* * * * * *

On the 3rd instant, Major Barefoot, kindly assisted by a party of ladies from Ranikhet, gave a very enjoyable gramophone entertainment in the regimental theatre. The reproductions of comic songs, speeches, and instrumental music were excellent. At intervals the following programme of songs was gone through, and judging from the applause, was much appreciated:—

"Eileen Alannah"	...	Mrs. Gordon.
"My Mother-in-law"	...	Capt. Darroch.
"Loch Lomond"	...	Mrs. Plowden.
"Slattery's Mounted Fut"	...	Lieut. Villiers-Stuart.
"I want you ma' honey"	...	Mrs. Griffiths.

* * * * * *

The "lifebuoy" could never be considered a thing of beauty. It is now to remain hidden under the *khaki* cover and a smarter and neater cloth *pagri* takes its place whenever a white helmet is worn. The sergeants have again been allowed to adopt the cork helmet

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(this time of the artillery pattern), which they wore up to the spring of 1895. The battalion gains greatly in appearance by these innovations.

* * * * *

Men who have elected to the new messing and who may be entitled to draw a ration allowance in lieu of rations in kind will now do so at the rate of Rs. 10 per mensem instead of Rs. 8-9-3 as heretofore. This increase is apparently compensation for the grocery ration the value of which had previously been lost to anyone drawing ration allowance. The value of this grocery ration will still be lost however to men on field service who have always received a free grocery ration.

* * * * *

In the event of an army corps being sent from home for service in South Africa there is apparently every possibility of our first battalion being included, in fact, we have every good authority for stating that they have been already warned to hold themselves in readiness for service.

It is absurd for us to say we hope war may be averted, because we don't hope anything of the kind, so with the congratulations which we offer to our home battalion on their good fortune in being selected is mingled a hope that we may meet them there in South Africa. It would be a most fitting celebration, spending our Centenary in the same country in which we received our first baptism of fire some four and ninety years ago.

* * * * *

Even now we shall not be unrepresented in South Africa. Captain H. d'Vallancey was appointed Provost Marshall to the Indian Brigade for service in the Transvaal and was amongst the first to leave India for Natal.

Lieutenants A. H. Maclean and J. B. Gillatt have also proceeded, attached to the 92nd Gordon Highlanders, for service.

* * * * *

All men of the drafts which joined during the trooping season 1898-99, and who are at present attached to companies at head-quarters will in the ordinary course of events remain permanently with these companies whilst the drafts joining during the ensuing trooping season will be posted to the companies of the right half battalion now at Shahjahanpur. All this beautiful arrangement however will be of no avail should drafts not be received this year, which is not at all unlikely should our home battalion go on field service.

* * * * *

During last month all the companies here expended the rounds at the disposal of officers commanding companies. The rounds were expended in improving indifferent shots, in moving and vanishing target practices and night firing. The commanding officer's rounds have also been fired at moving targets, company field firing and long range volleys.

* * * * *

Having completed twelve months' instruction with a British Regiment, 2nd Lieutenant Neumann has proceeded to join the 4th Rajputs, whilst 2nd Lieutenant Martin is away to the 13th Rajputs.

* * * * *

Lieutenant McPherson went "shikarring" on 10th September in pursuit of a leopard, which he then subsequently wounded. The beast then got bobbery and charged Mr. McPherson.

The following morning it was traced and despatched. The circumstances are humorously treated elsewhere in our columns.

* * * * *

Field firing took place at Chaubattia on the 11th and 12th September. The general idea was that a force near the top of the corkscrew path was being annoyed by snipers who were occupying the ridge running parallel to the cart road. One company was sent out to drive the snipers back, a section on the left being entrusted with a flank attack. A large body of the enemy then appeared on the left flank (the spur running out from the Officers' Mess) at whom long range volleys by half-companies were fired. The firing on the whole was fairly good, "H" Company perhaps making the best practice. The weather on the first day was not of the best, "G" Company firing during a heavy shower of rain

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"E" and "G" Companies fired on the 11th, "F" and "H" Companies on the 12th ultimo.

The Rev. Mr. Cameron has gone home on leave and the Rev. Mr. Gillon, Chaplain of the 42nd Highlanders, is officiating for him. When head-quarters move to the plains Mr. Gillon will have to rejoin his own regiment.

* * * * *

On every Wednesday for some time past "hill manœuvre and route marching" has been the order. At first when there was every prospect of autumn operations being carried out between here and Almora as last year, "hill manœuvring" preponderated, and the specially selected body of scouts under Lieutenant A. H. Maclean had plenty of work to do. Now Lieutenant Maclean is away to seek glory in the Transvaal, hill manœuvres are cancelled, and with no further incentive the usual Wednesday parade has degenerated into simple route marching; or as simple as the mountainous nature of the country will allow route marching round Chaubattia to become.

* * * * *

Head-quarters are extremely weak just at present as regards regimental officers. Captain Vallancy and Lieutenants A. H. Maclean and Gillatt are, as before stated, away to the Transvaal, Lieutenant Elphinstone is going through a garrison class at Ranikhet and Lieutenant Cox is on leave. Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, Captains Darroch and Bell, Lieutenant and Adjutant Campbell, 2nd Lieutenants Macpherson and Sandeman, and Lieutenant and Quarter-master Beattie are the only officers at head-quarters.

* * * * *

The battalion has been taking a stroll through the Infantry Drill book during the past month. Commencing at squad drill without arms we were eventually brought to the dignity of battalion drill about the end of the month, since when the old *regime* has resumed sway.

* * * * *

Commanding Officers' parade on Tuesday is ceremonial, and we now appear in it in the smart, though just at present somewhat heating, white flannel shell jacket, which has been so long discarded.

* * * * *

Non-commissioned officers have been practicing a new method of pitching, striking and loading general service tents on mules; at least the loading style appears to be a somewhat new departure. The pole bags are placed on first, then the tent is laid across and made fast, one end of the loading rope goes round the belly band of the animal and a blanket placed next the skin prevents chafing.

:o:

Letter to the Editor.

—o—

The Editor, "The Thin Red Line."

Toronto, September 9th, 1899.

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you on behalf of our old comrades of the 93rd for your kindness in sending the "Thin Red Line" which I have had pleasure in handing over to them. I was surprised to see in my letter published in your June issue that I had omitted mentioning two old comrades of the "Thin Red Line" on our books here. I also desire to rectify a couple of errors in my letter; at the time I wrote that letter I had much to learn with reference to the old military cemetery, as there are doubtless 800 instead of 500 buried there and several regiments not mentioned in my letter interested; full particulars will be sent to each regiment when the monument is unveiled.

Of the famous "Thin Red Line" we have in Toronto Sergeant Chas. Ellingsworth, medals and clasps for Crimea and Indian Mutiny, Balaclava, Alma and Sebastopol and Lucknow. Donald Chisholm wounded at Balaclava. Charlie Ellingsworth looks about 45 years old, keeps the volunteer cigar store, sells good weeds, and tells some famous stories, especially those of Jock MacLeod, the Pipe-Major of the 93rd; he has promised to send you some anecdotes of the 93rd in his day. With reference to the cost of the monument, I beg to say that the original cost agreed upon has been increased in order to secure a more lasting and better monument.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

JOHN R. GRAY,

Secretary.

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93RD SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS' ASSOCIATION.

BARDOWIE, MILNGAVIE, 19*th September* 1899.

The Manager, "Thin Red Line," 93rd Highlanders, Shahjahanpur, India.

DEAR SIR,

Next year being the Centenary of the Regiment, the Executive are desirous of celebrating it in a manner worthy of the Old Corps, and at the same time to do something for the benefit of the Crimean and Indian Mutiny Veterans who belonged to the regiment, and are now in their old age, by trying to raise a fund to be devoted to that purpose.

Their intention is to have a Military Tournament or other display in Glasgow about the month of August next year—the month (1800) in which the regiment was mustered under Major-General Leith Hay, and commanded by Colonel The Earl of Wemyss, when they hope to realise a handsome sum.

They appeal to the Officers, past and present, and to the Members of the Old Corps for their co-operation and generous support, so that they may be enabled to raise a fund to benefit the remnant now remaining of the Thin Red Line and Indian Mutiny Veterans.

The fund to be managed by a Committee consisting of three Officers of the Old 93rd Sutherland Highlanders and the Executive of the Association.

The three Officers are Colonel P. D. Trotter, Major Stewart MacDougall, of Lunga, John Campbell, Esquire, of Kilbery, and have accepted the Office.

ALFRED H. MIDDLETON, CAPTAIN,
Late 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, "A" Coy.,
Hon. President

—:o:—

Memo.

Prompted by a friendly feline, the following shikar incident is published for information.

By order,
FELIX PANTHER, MAJOR,
Jungle District Staff.

ACT I.

Crouched the wily Leopard.
Stealing on the "bakri,"
Him McPh-rs-n peppered
With his gun and "lakri."

Triumphant Song and Highland Fling. } Ach and Ach and on
Whist the gallant Pherson.
There is na doot at all
I am a valiant person.

ACT II.

But Life was not yet spent,
And bent upon diversion,
That Leopard "up and went"
For the Clan McPh-rs-n.

Leopard's War Cry. } Worry, Worry, Woo.
Record beating pairson,
Bide a wee, the noo,
Hoots, awa' McPh-rs-n!

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"Cox and Box."

—o—

Regimental Entertainment. Given at Chaubattia on Wednesday, 13th September.

The performance of Sullivan's operetta was preceded by a variety concert which was opened by Lance-Corporal Cairns with a much appreciated rendering of one of his most popular songs "The Yorkshire Lad." He was followed by Private Burns with a new comic "The Bicycle Woman," given in his own inimitable style; he was, needless to say, encored and responded with a musical eulogy of the fighting prowess of "Sandy" and "Pat." Private Clarke's "For old time's sake" was very sweetly sung. Private Cunningham's recitations from Shakespeare were most heartily received, and Sergeant Peggie brought the first part of the entertainment to a successful termination with the well-known "Afton Water."

The operetta was capitally done-get-up, singing and acting all being first rate. As the "Journeyman Hatter" Captain Darroch had a part which he made the most of and kept the audience in very good humour throughout. He was ably seconded by Mr. Dunning, whose excellent voice was heard to advantage whenever he had an opportunity. Mr. Villiers-Stuart, too, did full justice to his part of "Bouncer."

The entertainment was repeated with great success at Ranikhet on 5th October.

PROGRAMME:—

VARIETY.

Song	... ...	Lance-Corporal CAIRNS.
"	... ...	... Private BURNS.
"	... ...	... Private CLARE.
Recitation	... ...	Private CUNNINGHAM.
Song	... ...	Schoolmaster GOVER.
"	... ...	... Sergeant PEGGIE.

Followed by—Sullivan's Operetta.

COX AND BOX.

Dramatis Personæ.

James John Cox ...*A Journeyman Hatter*...Capt. DARROCH
John James Box ...*A Journeyman Printer* ...Mr. DUNNING
Sergt Bouncer *Late of the Yeomanry*, Mr. VILLIERS-STUART

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

———:o:———

Shikar.

—o—

2nd Lieutenant J. B. Macpherson obtained a shot at a panther on the evening of the 10th ultimo about six o'clock. This was below the mule lines. Though not killed on the spot, she was obtained the next morning in the thick cover lying to the left, where she had remained during the night.

This was an old female, length 6 feet.

2nd-Lieutenant A. B. Eckford has shot three panthers. These were obtained at very close intervals of time.

Two were killed in the same place, that is, at the foot of the high rocks, which will be found half a mile in the Ranikhet direction, on the path running below the Muhammadan cemetery. These were both shot a little after six o'clock in the evening.

Their respective measurements were as follows:—

First panther shot, August 22nd, female, length 6 feet 1 inch.

Second panther shot, September 1st, male, length 7 feet.

The third was shot from a window of the native house, situated about 1 mile from Chaubattia, down the ridge running parallel to the east road. This panther was shot at half-past eight at night, over the carcase of a cow, which it had killed the previous day, lying underneath the window.

This panther was a full grown male, length 6 feet $7\frac{5}{8}$ inches. Shot on September 6th.

———:o:———

At the Timperance Tay-fight.

—o—

They were lib'ral enough,
Wid their wads an' their cake;
And gin'rous enough
Wid their midals an' stars;
But the sinse av this rhyme
That I'm tryin' to make
Is: What did they do wid all the cigars—

Av course Aisy had tin,
An' Graisy a dozen;
An' Hogan pouched more
Than the man at the bar;
This usual *ocurrants*
Perhaps is the *raison*
Why I couldn't sport
A Bayhadur Cigar.

Shud I chance to float clear
Av Joe's glorious beer
At the next Timperance tay-fight
I might get a star;
But what about that,
Shure a tay-fight is flat
If another man smokes
Yer bi-annual cigar.

CAEN MOR.

Native enquiring the cause of the trouble in the Transvaal.

Non-Com.—Wheel ye see Blighty Admi not got same priveleges as Boer.

Native—Oh, I see, same like this country, white man say to native, Mehtar, Souar. In Africa black man say same like to white man.

Sentry giving of his orders:—Pay proper compliments to the magazine and patrol the orderly officer when he comes.

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"Under the Punkah."

—o—

BEING NOTES OF THE RIGHT WING AT SHAHJAHANPUR.

COMPARED with its predecessor September has been a most unproductive month—a re-action as it were from the outburst of August. No football, no gymkhanas no shooting matches, and a very little cricket made to go a long way however the one solitary match to be chronicled, that between the Shahjahanpur Club and the Wing, being commenced on the 2nd and prolonged until the 9th ultimo.

To make up for this lack of outdoor amusement there was a most interesting Billiard Tournament in the games room on Monday and Tuesday, 18th and 19th ultimos, and upon this a very considerable amount of the Wing's interest was centred for the time it lasted. Corporal Watt had arranged the tournament and to Private J. P. Devlin, assisted by Private Mack, was entrusted the handicapping. This delicate task was performed admirably, with the result that the interest was prolonged to the end.

* * * * *

"On Thursday, the 8th September," writes a correspondent, "the vicinity of the 'Jungle' barracks was the scene of great excitement. 'Char' battery had a race in hand. Cairns of the 'left half' who would concede five yards was matched to run Connell of the 'right half' a hundred yards. Each man was strongly backed and the stake-holders were smiling. Everything was kept pretty dark, but sport like murder 'will out' and just on the moment appointed (5-30 P.M. sharp), a contingent of B Company were over to 'pile' on Cairns, but the right half had made previous arrangements, and there were no takers. Punctually (in fact to be more accurate a little before the appointed time) Colour-Sergeant Chaplin appeared with his sporting *bunduk*, Private Mossman placed the men on their marks, the gun was fired and the runners were on their way cutting wind. Connell seemed to hang on his mark, but Cairns got away grandly, and it was even for the first fifty yards; then Cairns began to overhaul his opponent and running strongly won in magnificent style by about four yards."

* * * * *

The month has been one of farewells. On Sunday, 17th, Major S. L. Robinson left by the night mail *en route* for Bombay to join the first battalion to which he has been posted on promotion. Major Robinson hopes to go direct to the Cape as the 91st have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness for service in the Transvaal. The officers and several sergeants were at the railway station to bid farewell, and the pipers and drummers of the wing played up and down the platform whilst good-byes were being said, the railway buildings quite vibrating with the martial music as the train steamed out of the station. The following week Captain K. B. Cameron returned from leave and after visiting barracks to say good-bye to his company and to the sergeants, left for Dacca to take up the appointment of Adjutant to the Dacca-Chittagong Volunteer Rifles.

* * * * *

The monsoon has departed somewhat early this year according to all accounts and much too early for the ryot, though the country looks remarkably green and fertile and hardly seems to suggest a threatened famine. With the departure of the rains the weather has cooled remarkably, and although the days are still hot the nights and early mornings have quite a cool feel about them which is most reviving after the close and clammy evenings of the recently departed rainy season. The "cold weather" may shortly be expected, however, for by the fifteenth of the present month the punkah will have ceased to "punk," and according to all forecasts an early and severe winter is in store for us.

* * * * *

BILLIARD HANDICAP AT SHAHJAHANPUR.

—o—

FIRST ROUND

Pte. Gibson,	"C" (55) beat	Pte. Getchell,	"A" (40) ...	200 to 190
,, Kennedy,	"C" (50) ,,	Cpl. Robb,	"A" (45) ...	200 ,, 192
,, Marklew,	"C" (40) ,,	Pte. Coleman,	"C" (40) ...	200 ,, 189
Piper Maclean,	"B" (10) ,,	Cpl. Watt,	"D" (scratch)	200
Pte. McVea,	"C" (45) ,,	Pte. McMahon,	"C" (10) ...	200 ,, 187
,, Smith,	"D" (scratch) ,,	,, Britton,	"A" (10) ...	200 ,, 163
,, McPherson,	"A" (45) ,,	Dmr. Blake,	"D" (30) ...	200 ,, 159
,, H. Whyte,	"C" (45) ,,	Pte. Dunn,	"C" (50) ...	200 ,, 181
,, Clements,	"C" (60) ,,	,, Gannon,	"A" (45) ...	200 ,, 177
,, Jackson,	"A" (30) ,,	,, Tawse,	"D" (20) ...	200 ,, 183

SECOND ROUND.

Pte. Gibson,	(55) beat	Pte. Marklew, (40)	...	200 to 189
,, Jackson,	(30) ,,	,, Clements, (60)	...	200 ,, 189
,, Whyte,	(45) ,,	Dmr. Blake	...	200
,, Smith (scratch)	,,	Piper Maclean, (10)	...	200 ,, 186
,, McVea,	(45) ,,	Pte. Kennedy, (50)	...	200 ,, 183

THIRD ROUND.

Pte. Whyte,	(45) beat	Pte. Jackson, (30)	...	200 to 168
,, Gibson,	(55) ,,	,, Kennedy,	...	200 ,, 199
,, Smith,	a bye			

SEMI-FINAL.

Pte. Whyte,	(45) beat	Pte. Smith, (scratch)	...	200 to 163
,, Gibson,	a bye			

FINAL.

Pte. Whyte,	(45) beat	Pte. Gibson, (55)	...	200 to 198
Best break of Handicap		Pte. Smith	...	23

* * * * *

On the 6th September there was a match for 200 up between Private McMahon, "C" Company, and Private Robertson, "B" Company, the latter winning. Scores:—

Pte. Robertson, (40)	... 200
,, McMahon, (scratch)	... 187

The day following the Handicap a match between Corporal Watt and Private Smith, "D" Company, 250 up, took Place. Scores:—

Pte. Smith	250
Corporal Watt	138

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Balaklava Ghosts.

—o—

"You may talk about your orthodox ghosts who haunt ancient castles, wailing and groaning and carrying flaming lights from window to window for apparently no earthly—or rather unearthly—purpose save that of terrifying out of its wits some poor hind bearing home a bewildered brain after staying out too long. But for something that has for ever baffled me and made me often wonder whether I was dreaming or awake commend me to what I saw—or thought I saw—the night before Balaklava, October 25, 1854."

The subject of conversation had drifted from the battlefields of yesterday to those of thirty years before, when the tall, heavy forms before us of my father and his old comrades in arms, Sir Langley Fetherstone and Colonel Elmhurst, were as light as my own, Aubrey's, or Bob Fetherstone's that night as we sat round listening to the stories of the hot days when our fathers were men as young as we.

"Hand me my memory, Aubrey," said my father, pointing to a huge cavalry sabre that hung over the mantelpiece. My father drew the sword from its scabbard and lovingly surveyed the glittering blade.

"Old never failed me!" he said. "Do you see that dent in its edge, Lang? Got that crossing the Alma off the helmet of a Russian cuirassier. I sent the blow through steel and skull together. There is another. Got that the 25th of October from the commander of the Cossacks that charged the left flank of the 'heavies.' He struck at me; I parried—there is the mark."

"And then?" said Sir Langley.

"I swept it around and caught him across the throat," answered my father, abstractedly. "I saw his body afterward, when it was turned over to his relatives, for he was a noble—a Grand Duke, I believe. And here is another—but there! if I once started telling anecdotes of every experience that old blade went through in my hands I would stay talking until morning. Put it up again, Vic.

"It was the night before the never-to-be-forgotten 25th. We were close to the Russian lines, our pickets being almost within hailing distance of the enemy.

"I was riding out to inspect the sentries stationed along the Grodno road. It was a wet, cold night, and I clasped my great-coat close about me, and spurred my charger along the muddy road.

"As I reached the side of the valley I drew him in quickly, as I heard a distant rumble, like the moving of heavy ordnance at the extreme end. I listened. All was still again.

"I rode on. I arrived at the station of the sentry, and as I did so some smart firing broke out towards the rear. Our pickets were evidently being driven in, and I sent the sentry back to hasten up the supports. He never returned.

"I stayed, cursing his delay, for over half an hour. When I again heard the same rumbling noise, I looked up the valley. All was dark, but the rumble seemed to be advancing at a terrific pace. As it was coming from our lines I thought it might be a night attack.

"A white streak appeared 200 feet away, the noise crashed upon me with full force, and in an instant I saw the charging ranks and the wild, eager forms of the soldiers seated on their foaming, galloping steeds.

"Forms, did I say? Yes, forms only. Forms pale and shadowy. Horse and man alike woven, as it were, out of the mist.

"I saw the form of Louis Nolan. He was sitting half round in his saddle, his sword hanging from his wrist, his forage cap in his hand which he was waving exultingly.

"There rode Major Halket. His proud, handsome face, set firmly and unflinchingly, his sword clinched in his hand, as it was found next day when they raised his body from the bloodsoaked soil. Then came Lord Fitzgibbon.

"As the last line of charging horse passed from my sight I saw a shadowy Lieutenant of the Guards besides me. He pointed in the direction whither they had gone, a scornful smile was on his spectral face. His hollow voice echoed tauntingly in my ear.

"'So Major Hurst of the First Royals prefers discretion to valour, because he belongs to the heavy and not to the light brigade?'"

"I aimed a blow at my traducer, but my hand only struck into the empty air.

"He laughed a mocking laugh, and again pointing down the valley, said, 'Go.'

"'I will show you that at least one of the "heavies" can do as well as the men of the light brigade!' I cried jumping into the saddle and galloping off after the vanished cavalry. I galloped on and on in the dark until I saw again the white streak approaching me in a contrary direction and the rumbling echoing in the rear.

"A second, and it burst upon my sight. But what a change—horses riderless, terrified, wounded, maddened with excitement! Not a single form of a soldier passed.

"Then I saw another white streak approaching. The fur caps, the long riding coats, the

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leggings, the long lances, and above all, the superb horsemanship displayed told me that they were the Cossacks of the Czar. But their faces were rigid as the dead.

"I saw one of the silent host bearing full upon me, his lance in rest, his cold, dead eyes holding me transfixed, so that I could not move a limb.

"A moment more, and a pang shot through my heart. Then all seemed dark, save for an occasional star shooting by. I struggled to place my hands over my eyes, and, as I did so, I heard a voice above me say.

"'He's coming to. My, it was a close call!'

"I opened my eyes. I was lying swathed in blankets in the tents of one of the boys of the Ninety-third.

"I recognised Heathcote, poor Heathcote, who was afterwards killed at Delhi, just after his being gazetted as colonel!

"'Why, old man,' he said joyfully, 'you were near saving the Russians a job! I found you lying, stiff and stark, near the Grodno road, as our boys came along to help the Twenty-sixth drive back the attack on the outposts. We brought you here and have had a big job getting you round. It's a wonder you are not minus toes and fingers, but there's only the tip of your ear frozen.'" From *The Man of the World.*

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Temperance Topics.

—o—

The leaders of the Temperance Party in Chaubattia have much to be thankful for, as never did the workers for this much needed reform have such a bright outlook before them as they have at the present time.

The membership in the Army Temperance Association which has been about the same level during the past few months, is now beginning slowly, but none the less surely, to increase. Although saddled by a heavy debt, it is to be hoped that the officers of this Association will try and make its room as bright and cheerful as possible in order to really prove a counter attraction to the canteen. It is to be hoped, too, that they will so manage affairs that its accounts may soon show a substantial balance on the right side.

The Pride of Sutherland Branch Lodge I. O. G. T. has now succeeded in establishing itself upon a firm footing and in its ranks are to be found earnest and hard-working men who are surely making their power felt in Chaubattia.

The Excelsior Tent I. O. R. has also made vast increases in their membership and are carrying on successfully the great work they have in hand.

The latter two orders have done wonderful work since their arrival in Chaubattia, no stone having been left unturned that would have helped on the great Crusade against the Drink Traffic.

It is encouraging to note that these two orders are working hand in hand thoroughly taking advantage of the fact that "Union is Strength" and in connection with either one or the other there has been a rapid succession of bright, cheerful, and harmonious evenings which have done much to relieve the monotonous routine of hill life, and at the same time have brought the merits of these organisations well under the notice of the regiment.

These reached a climax when the two orders combined to hold a select evening concert in the regimental theatre for the purpose of bringing to the notice of every individual in the regiment the merits of these sister orders.

Bro. Wm. Morrison and Committee were entrusted with the arrangements and succeeded in arranging a first-class concert, which took place on Wednesday, 30th August.

It was unfortunate that on that particular date there should have been a dance in Ranikhet, which undoubtedly drew away a few of the faces one generally sees at these concerts. However, at 9-15 P.M., when Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Campbell took the chair, the theatre was crowded with an appreciative audience.

The Templars and Rechabites occupied the front of the theatre, immediately behind the reserved seats, and made an imposing show in their various regalias. Upon the arrival of the chairman they rose, and under the leadership of Bro. Wm. Morrison sang "The Good Templars' Reception Ode." The chair having been handed over to Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, the following programme was carried out with great spirit :—

PART I

Opening remarks ... ... Lt.-Col. Campbell.
Duet ... ... "We are two good young men."
Friends Forman and Gillon.
Song ... ... "Lulu."
Bro. Hare.
Step Dance ... ...
Bro. Lee.
Song ... ... "The Shoemaker."
Bro. Burns.
Song ... ... "Those Wedding Bells."
Friend Radmall.
Song ... ... "Diddle, diddle do-dumday."
Friend Tate.
Song and Dance ... ...
Friend Stewart.
Song ... ... "The Handy man."
Friend Balfour.
Song ... ... "The Admiral's Broom."
Schoolmaster Gover.
Song ... ... "Mary Anne."
Friend Foreman.
Cornet Solo ... ...
Friend McGuire.
Remarks ... ...
Bro. Brown, D. G. C. T.

Interval of 10 minutes.

PART II

Song ... ... "What can a poor man do."
Friend Gillon.
Song ... ... "The Wedding Moon."
Friend Radmall.
Step Dance ... ...
Bro. Lee and Friend Stewart.
Song ... ... "The Golden Dustman."
Bro. Hare.
Song ... ... "Sunshine and Shade."
Bro. Mayer.
Song ... ... "The Bicycle Woman."
Bro. Burns.
Song ... ... "Jaw, Jaw, Jaw."
Friend Shackell.
Parody ... ... "The Campbells are coming."
Friend Balfour.
Parody ... ... "Home, sweet Home."
Friends Shackell and Tate.
Remarks by the Chaplain ... ... Rev. Mr. Gillon.
God Save the Queen.

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What the Parrot's Cousin at Shahjahanpur is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT Shahjahanpur mice are gettin' quite epicurean in taste.

That a company figure-of-merit is their favourite menu.

That the latest interpretation of the summer dress regulations is peculiar.

That it is worn on guard.

That it is more comfortable than "cellular."

That Signallers are gettin' maist particular.

That the nichts are now ower dark for lamps.

That Blighty canna' claim a' the guid things.

That Shahjahanpur has also hed a "Heat Wave."

That the young sodjers dinna ken ower muckle.

That ane o' them didna ken the difference between the October issue o' sheets and the new paggaree.

That another buidy got mixed when the chief armourer came.

That he said "the Civil and Military is gain' tae inspect the rifles tae-morrie."

That it wonders how twa rounds "without ammunition" are fired.

That it's been doin' nothin' but speed the partin' the last month.

That the hame battalion are in lucks way.

That it winders whether it 'll want ony volunteers.

That it disna' ken where the drafts'll come frae this troopin' season.

That the Indian contingent dinna' let the grass grow under their feet.

That it hopes another brigade may be wanted frae India.

That it wouldn't be surprised.

That what, ho! She bumps!

—:o:—

Sport.

—o—

BILLIARDS.

A match took place between Privates Hiddles and Hughes, "D" Company, *v.* Privates Silcock and Grant, "H" Company, for Rs. 30. The latter two won by 2 points.

A match has also taken place between Privates Hiddles and McAuley, the former conceding the latter 10 points in a game of 100 up. Hiddles led at the latter part of the game, but had the misfortune to break the tip of his cue; after that McAuley gradually got ahead and won by 2 points.

N.-C.-O. drilling squad at Firing Exercise:—Take your muzzle off the hands of your rifle.

N.-C.-O. taking a quiet walk round before Barrack inspection is attracted by the appearance of some bedboards on the rafters:—Take the roofs of that charpoy.

Company officer questioning bright young soldier at monthly Musketry:—What would you do if your ammunition ran short in presence of the enemy? Bright young soldier:—Keep up the snapping, sir.

Cricket.

SERGEANTS *v.* CORPORALS.

This match was played on the 7th ult. The Sergeants were the challengers, the match being a return of the foot-ball match played last month. The game, it is perhaps needless to say, was hardly up to country form and resulted in a win for the seniors by six runs.

SERGEANTS.—Sergeant Watters 13, 0. Arm.-Sergeant Holden 2, 0. Sergeant Clarke 10, 0. Band Sergeant Peggie 24, 0. Sergeant G. Gunn 0, 0. Crawford 13, 13. Forbes 0, 2. Wallace 5, 2. Lockie (not out) 0, 0. Pipe Major Ferguson 0, 3. Colour-Sergeant Smith 0, (not out) 2. Extras 3, 3. Totals 70, 23.

CORPORALS.—Lance-Corporal Ricketts 4, 1. Corporal Jamieson, 1, 0. Lance-Corporal Willcocks 6, 19. Corporal Adcock 5, 3. Inglis 1, 0. Ballantyne 14, 1. Ogg, 0, 0. Watson, (not out) 11, 0. Yardley 2, 0. Atkinson 1, (not out) 2. Sutherland 2, 0. Extras 12, 2. Totals 59, 28.

—:o:—

'Bout a Button.

—o—

A SHIKAR TRAGEDY.

It was about four o'clock one Friday afternoon not long ago, when some one came to me and said, "Oh, you must go and shoot a leopard this evening." I said I didn't want to a bit, and offered him a drink to try and change the subject. He took the drink willingly, but didn't change the subject, and at last badgered me into going. So I hunted about for a gun of sorts, and having borrowed one I went down towards the leopard's ridge. Incidentally this seems to me to be a misnomer, as if a leopard chances to come to what must from its name be his lawful ground, he is at once destroyed. However, I went down there armed with a gun, a *shikari* and a goat. The goat was tied up and I went and lay down about 20 yards off, and the *shikari* went away, of which I was glad, as it left me in peace. Well, it was a lovely afternoon, cloudless and not too hot, and I felt very happy. So did the goat which was lying down chewing its cud. I can well remember wishing it would chew the other sort of *khud* instead, and then I should not have such an infernal climb to get home. I had eaten a good lunch, I may say an exceedingly good lunch, and I felt very drowsy. All of a sudden I was awakened, I suppose I had dropped off, by an exclamation of surprise from the goat. My first thought was that it must have bit on a bad tooth, but on following the direction of its gaze I saw a wonderful sight. A fine exceptionally handsome leopard sitting on the ground about 10 yards from the goat pensively chewing the end of its tail. After a bit it got up and strolled over to

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the goat. Then they apparently began to talk. Of course I was surprised, but then you never know what you're going to see. And then the starting of the whole accident happened. One of my coat buttons caught in the gun, and sent the beastly thing off. The report frightened the goat which started, and, oh horror! sent its horns in raising its head full into the poor leopard's throat. He in a sudden paroxysm of rage, caused by the pain of his awful wound, forgot that it was an accident, and smote the poor goat on the head, killing it. He at once saw what he'd done, however, and uttering a low moan went and lay down in a hole to weep. Seeing this I cut the offending button from my coat, and advanced holding it between finger and thumb, my eyes brimming with tears for what I had done indirectly towards the leopard. I held the button out to him, and tried to explain by signs that it was entirely the button's fault, and that he might do what he liked with it (the button). But he, not understanding my signs was stupid enough to think it was my fault, and rushed at me roaring. I fled dropping the button as I ran. Fortunately he tripped over it, and so I was able to escape. But when I got home and had time to think of all the mischief my button had wrought, I saw plainly that I could not leave the poor wounded beast in the lurch. So I begged three other gentlemen to accompany me next morning to seek the poor beast out. We went down from our quarters as soon as it was light, and searched everywhere, but he was not to be found. "No," we said "his sorrow is too great, doubtless he has hidden." Just as all hopes had nearly vanished he was espied up the hillside. We decided to make a detour down the *nullah* and come up towards him lest, in his shame at what he had done he should still try to delude us. So we started. But our old *shikari* could not bear to think of leaving the poor beast in pain a moment longer than was necessary. He therefore advanced straight towards the leopard. When they met he grasped him by the tongue and looked at it, then he cried aloud for he saw that the noble cat was doomed. The leopard groaned, the *shikari* shouted for aid. The two of the party nearest running up "Put him out of his misery" said the *shikari*. Two shots rang out, and the unfortunate leopard breathed no more. The *shikari*, and indeed all of us, were much overcome by the sad tragedy. It just shows what a coat button can do.

—:o:—

I Ram fight forty years ago.

—o—

By W. Forbes-Mitchell, late 93rd.

(*Special for the "Saturday Journal"*).

A few days ago a local contemporary published the following:—

"How Rams are Trained to Fight."

"The natives of India are keen sportsmen, in that they enjoy wagering on the element of chance, and in Bengal a favourite sport is ram fighting. A likely male lamb is chosen, when quite young, and his training often extends over eighteen months to two years. The first operation is to make him grow suitable horns. To attain this end when his first horns appear the owner grasps them in his teeth and tears them out of their sockets. This operation has to be repeated upon subsequent growths two or three times. Then the young champion develops a really massive pair, very broad at the base. He is always chained, presumedly to make him pugnacious. When his horns are sufficiently tough he is taught butting. His trainer dons a wooden shield, and the ram is taught to butt this, at first with only a short run.

"But as he takes to his training he backs further and further from the object until the legitimate distance is arrived at. By this time he has began to put such force into his butts that it takes two men to hold the shield, and a good ram will upset them at every charge. When he is fit he is taken to a match. The trainers then straddle their animals, grasping them by the horns and bring them into the arena facing each other about forty feet apart. The word is given, the trainers slip the animals, and the rams precipitate themselves forward at lightning speed, heads down, quarters up. They meet with a thundering crash, the horns and skulls clanging as if they were metal. The animals then back of their own accord, and close again, with the same awful impetuosity. Again and again they close until one of the two refuses to face the music. Then the victor chases him from the arena."

I cannot say from personal experience whether the above is a correct account or not of how rams are trained to fight; but if correct the plan of pulling out the young horns would account for the enormous and well placed horns of the ram whose exploits I am about to relate. This history commences in the hill station of Subathoo, where the old 93rd Sutherland Highlanders were sent in April, 1859, just after the toils and dangers of the Mutiny and the final campaign in Oudh. However, before commencing the history of this famous fighting ram I will give my readers a brief history of the owner, Jock Smart, and how the ram came to be in his possession. Jock Smart was a well known character in the Ninety-third of those days. He had enlisted shortly before myself, and we had joined the regiment together in the same draft and were what may be called chums in the army sense of the term although not comrades.

Jock had had some disagreement with a sweetheart and to spite her had enlisted with a recruiting party in Inverary. His forefathers for unknown generations had been kennel keeper for the Earls of Kintore, then the largest breeders of fox hounds and the greatest fox-hunters in the United Kingdom; so that Jock had been used to dogs from his childhood, and could tame the most savage dog that existed.

I think it is Huxley who puts it on record that our fore fathers who went into the woods and forests for theirmedicines and trusted to nature and fresh air for

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health, were far stronger and lived to a greater age than we with all our modern science, doctors and medicines. So it was with Jock Smart. He knew a great deal about the ailments of dogs and horses, and even about the diseases of the human species, and like our forefathers he went into the woods and jungles for all his medicines. He was a thorough herbalist and no mean botanist. He doctored all the dogs in the station and many of the horses. At that time, 1859, (which was only seventeen years after our great disasters in Kabul), there were still many alive in the bazaars of Upper India who had either been followers of the British or of their ally, King Shah Sujah, and among the number was an old Afghan who had held a good position in the Court of Shah Sujah. This Afghan had managed to make his escape through the passes between Kabul and India in 1842. The old man had also been able to save one child, a daughter, who had been born shortly before the murder of Shah Sujah and the retreat of the British. The mother had died of exposure in the course of the retreat, and the father had succeeded in saving the child, at the cost, however, of several fingers and toes, from frost-bite of both himself and child.

At the time of which I write the daughter was a young woman of about eighteen years, and if it had not been for the loss of her fingers and toes she would have been a very attractive woman for she was exceedingly handsome. The effects of the frost-bite still clung to her, and every year during the rains the old frost-bitten parts broke out into running sores which none of the native hakims or kobirajes could cure. For this reason the father had been unable to get his daughter married to any one of his own countrymen, who otherwise would have gladly admitted the pretty Afghan maiden into their harem.

This old Afghan heard that Jock Smart was a famous herbalist who had effected some wonderful cures in the bazaars of Subathoo, and he sent for Jock and told him about the case of his daughter. Jock told the old chief that as for himself he had not had much experience in such cases, but that he had seen his mother treat many similar cases of frost-bite among sailors returned from whale fishing. He knew the plants which his mother employed both for healing ointments and internal use and as the same plants were common in the hills around Subathoo he thought he would be successful in effecting a cure if the old chief consented to his trying. The old Afghan agreed to Jock taking the case in hand, and before three months had elapsed he had completely cured her. He could not of course replace the lost fingers and toes, but he had thoroughly cured the running sores of all the frost-bitten parts of both father and daughter.

The old Afghan was most grateful ; the more so, as he had got his daughter married almost immediately to another Afghan refugee who had fairly good pension from the British Government. The old man was, however, poor and unable to pay Jock Smart any fee for his medical services. But he had in his possession a famous fighting ram which he pressed on Jock as a present in return for his kindness and care. He told Jock that this ram could fight any other ram in creation, and that as the Ninety-third were about to return to the plains there would be no want of matches and high stakes for fighting rams. The ram was closely shorn and, looked very scraggy and lean, though on a close examination it proved to be very muscular and wiry; in fact, all bone and muscle. His horns were the most extraordinary pair I have ever seen. They curved round the forehead till they met between the eyes, and turned the forehead into a solid mass of horn. It must have been from seeing such a head that made the ancients devise the battering ram as an engine of war. His eyes were unusually keen and bright, and the Afghan assured me that he always struck his opponent with unerring aim with his terrible forehead of horn. There was also a secret connected with the ram which was imparted to Jock and known to him alone as long as he had possession of the ram.

The Ninety-third left Subathoo about the middle of October and came to Umballa, where we remained in camp waiting the arrival of Lord Canning, the Viceroy, and Sir Colin Campbell (by that time Lord Clyde, though still called Sir Colin by the Ninety-third), to accompany the former throughout his cold weather tour in the Punjab, where he was proceeding to invest the loyal Punjab Chiefs with the honours and rewards earned by them for their loyalty during the Mutiny.

Those were the days when there were no restrictions on ram fighting or any other fighting or betting in any form, and throughout India, in every bazaar, many natives who had the means kept both fighting rams and fighting cocks and even fighting quails. Thus from the day the Ninety-third reached Kalka and renewed camp life Jock Smart's ram had daily practice against the rams of the bazaar people and villagers near the different camps. The stakes on such occasions were usually small, varying from five to ten rupees. Jock's ram, however, invariably came off the winner, and his owner gradually accumulated money. In brief, no other ram ever stood to meet Jock's ram a second round. It was Jock's greatest wish and object to save up sufficient money to enable his mother to open a hotel in one of the places in the north of Scotland newly thrown open to tourists by the extension of railways, which had by that time reached Inverness and were extending to the remotest corners of the hitherto unexplored Northern counties of Scotland. Jock's mother was, besides, a famous cook, having served for many years in the kitchen of Keith Hall (the seat of the Earls of Kintore) under the most famous French chefs. Jock's father also was ageing fast and wished to retire from the drudgery of attending on the kennels. Jock's greatest ambition, therefore, was to save sufficient money to set his parents up in a comfortable hotel which should descend to himself and where he could as landlord fight both his ram-fights and his more dangerous experiences of the Crimea and the great Mutiny for the entertainment of his guests long before old age would lay him low. The possession of such a famous ram had placed the ball, as the saying is, at Jock's feet, and being one who never laid out a rupee without good reason to expect two to come in, Jock was on the road to fortune.

During the remainder of October, and the month of November and part of December, the Ninety-third were encamped at Umballa awaiting the advent of the Governor-General. In this interval many Rajahs and Chiefs had assembled at Umballa to pay their respects to the Governor-General, Lord Canning, as first Viceroy and to proceed with the camp for a great durbar at Lahore. Jock Smart and his fighting ram had become famous among the native Chiefs and every day brought fresh challenges and every challenge as surely brought fresh laurels for the ram and more money to Jock's pocket in the way of stakes and bets. Matters had flourished with Jock and his ram, so much so that by the time we reached Lahore in January, 1860, Jock had over a thousand rupees in the Savings Bank. He had invested in a small tent for the protection for the ram from cold by night and the sun by day, and this tent was always pitched, by special permission from the commanding

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officer, old Daddy Cornwall. Daddy Cornwall had returned from home fully cured of his wounds received at Cawnpore, with the rank of senior Major in the regiment and had taken over command from Colonel A. S. Leith Hay (who had served his full time and retired) with the rank of Colonel just before the regiment left Subathoo. Jock's ram had now come to be considered an ornament and an honour to the regiment, and the permission was readily granted by the commanding officer to pitch the ram's small tent near the quarter guard under the eye of the sentry, both for comfort and safety. This was almost absolutely necessary as the ram had become so famous that there was great danger of him being stolen and hidden away among the several camps of the native Chiefs.

When we reached Lahore it was known that there would be a long halt, because in addition to the durbar which was to be held for all the native Chiefs and durbarees, there were parades of troops at Mian Mir and private visits and return visits to be paid by the Viceroy to all the native Chiefs of note, everyone of whom was assembled at Lahore. The maidan in front of the Fort, between the Ravi and the Bedami Bagh, had been reserved for games and sports of all kinds, wrestling matches, cock fights, ram fights, and quail fights. The glories of picturesque India had not then departed, nor had the land become the happy hunting ground of the modern globe-trotter. A few days after our arrival at Lahore a native tom-tom wallah went through the camp proclaiming that, His Highness the Nawab of Bahawalpore had a famous fighting ram prepared to enter the lists against any other ram in all India for ten to one in thousands. This proclamation made Jock Smart, as the saying is, "Sit up." He, however, got a letter of introduction to the minister of His Highness the Nawab of Bahawalpore for him to be allowed to see this famous ram. As before mentioned, by that time Jock had over a thousand rupees in the regimental Savings Bank, or at least deposited with the Pay-Master and now was the time for him "to dare to put it to the touch to gain or lose it all."

Jock saw the Bahawalpore ram and at once decided to risk his thousand rupees against the ten thousand of the Nawab. He returned to his own camp and put himself in communication with all the officers who had been hitherto backing his ram. Jock truthfully stated that he believed the Bahawalpore ram to be about twice the weight of his ram, but that the Bahawalpore ram was too fat and could not possibly stand a protracted contest against Jock's lean and wiry ram, which was also in thorough training and full of fight, and told all that he was confident of victory. He risked his thousand rupees with light heart, and advised everyone to back his ram. Jock also explained that in addition to being too fat, the Bahawalpore ram's horns, although heavy, were too wide apart, and that he was positive that one blow from his own ram with his forehead of solid horn would end the contest and enable him to carry off the stakes, and that from henceforth his mother's hotel in the North of Scotland would be an established fact. Jock was so certain of victory for his ram that he inspired confidence in all his backers. To guard against any fraud or foul play a strong committee of stakeholders consisting of officers both from the Ninety-third and from other regiments, joined by several native noblemen from the followers of the native princes, was formed.

The Prime Minister of the Maharajah of Kashmir was elected umpire of the committee, and all was sure of fair play and no trickery. As before mentioned Jock had a secret connected with his ram which he told to no one, knowing that one might keep a secret but two never. This secret had been told him by the old Afghan refugee when he presented him with the ram, and Jock had the good sense to carefully keep it locked up in his own heart. Every European of almost every rank among the sportsmen in camp bet on Jock's ram, having taken the contagion from Jock himself. Jock also got the Prime Minister of Kashmir, the umpire of the committee by plausible and forcible reasons, after having seen both rams, to back his. He related all the victories which his ram had won during the past three months and inspired the very president himself with confidence. At last everything was arranged. The arena was railed off on the maidan, and several enterprising natives had erected ranges of seats which were let at from one to ten rupees to any who wished to view the fight. Jock had kimself slept or rather watched by the ram's tent for the previous twenty-four hours. The fight was fixed for three o' clock in the afternoon. The stakes were deposited, the Nawab's ten thousand rupees in five bags of two thousand each, against Jock's small bag consisting of the modest sum of one thousand—currency notes had not cropped up at that time in India nor for several years after, and the rupee was then a rupee worth about two shilings and two pence, and not a depreciated fraud like our present coin.

All preliminary arrangements having been made the Bahawalpore ram was led into the arena in all the glory of golden covered cloths and gilded horns. After the Bahawalpore ram had been led round the arena and very much applauded Jock followed with his skinny, scraggy ram, but with keen eye and erect head. The ram knew as well as anyone there that he was in for a fight, and the sparkle of his bright eyes showed that he was on his mettle and ready for it. After the rams had been paraded, the betting, except from a few of the committee and several of the officers and men of the Ninety-third inspired by Jock, was almost entirely against Jock's ram. Jock had taken great care to keep his ram at a good distance from the Bahawalpore ram, while they were being led round the arena. Why, it will appear later on. The owners tossed for position, but as the day was cloudy with hardly any glare position did not much matter; but no formality, however, was overlooked and each took their allotted position. The Bahawalpore ram, in comparison to Jock's ram, appeared in size like a prize buffalo alongside of a lean, half-starved bullock. The betting was rapidly rising. The signal was at last given, the trumpet sounded for silence, and the rams instantaneously slipped. Jock Smart's ram went for his opponent, to use a slang expression "like a flash of greased lightning," and hit him straight on the forehead between the eyes with his terrible horns, sending the latter heals over head about ten feet from the spot where they met. That was a surprise to thousands, except to the few who had backed Jock's ram. Directly Jock's ram had delivered this crushing blow he as quickly retired and prepared for a fresh aim, but no more was needed. His opponent had had enough, and no sooner he regained his feet he turned tail and fled out of the arena, like a hunted deer from the spring of a tiger, with Jock's ram after him. Jock had prepared for this and had men stationed with a rope to intercept the victor. The Bahawalpore ram did not halt till he was brought up on the brink of a branch of the Ravi, about a quarter of a mile from the arena. Thus ended a ram fight of forty years ago. The stakes were duly made over to Jock and carted to the cash-box of the Pay-Master.

Jock was content with his winnings, and as he was filled with a wholesome dread that his ram might

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either be stolen or poisoned, he by the advice of several of the officers determined to sell him. He there and then proclaimed that the ram would be sold by public auction at noon on the following day at the quarter-guard of the Ninety-third. The bidding was brisk, and the ram was finally knocked down for the sum of five thousand rupees to the Prime Minister of the Maharajah of Kashmir. Jock Smart thus cleared over sixteen thousand rupees by his fighting ram, and his ambition was gratified. The money was duly remitted to his parents in Scotland, and his mother became the landlady of a well furnished hotel in the north of Scotland.

It only remains to inform my readers of the secrets of the ram's victories. The ram was, of course, a most powerful and wiry animal, and a trained fighter, but the true secret of all his victories lay in the fact that he had been thoroughly trained to eat *hing* (asafœtida) as a daily condiment with his food, and before every fight his nose was stuffed with the drug, his horns rubbed over with it, and the dry powdered drug was dusted into the short wool all over his head. Thus directly his head came in contact with that of another ram they got dusted over with asafœtida and his opponent fled from the abominable smell of it. This fact was never noticed by the natives, because every bazaar in Upper India stinks with the smell of asafœtida, and every crowd of natives is offensive to Europeans for the same reason. Sheep not used to it have a great objection to the smell of the drug in its crude state. Jock Smart waited on the purchaser of the ram and explained all these peculiarities after he had received the five thousand, and the bargain was beyond cavil.

The ram was also taught to eat opium, but he got opium only a short time before a fight and not as a regular thing. He could eat as much opium as would have filled half the members of the Anti-opium society "drunk with the wine of astonishment," and with his dose of opium he invariably got about a quart of milk, fresh from the cow which he eagerly drank. The opium was thus used as a servant and never allowed to become a master, and it served to clear the ram's eyes and to steady his aim in a wonderful manner for a fight.

I may as well finish the history of Jock Smart as far as I know it. Jock was grateful to the old Afghan for the present of the ram, and he got the regimental moonshee to write and offer him the half of the sum which he had received for the ram. The reply, however, was that the old man was no more. He had been killed by an accident in Ludiana shortly after the marriage of his daughter.

After disposing of his ram, Jock turned his whole attention to breeding and training dogs, both for pointers and watch dogs. He had a large kennel connected with the regimental bazaar and kept a number of boys in charge of it. Soon Jock became equally famous for supplying watch dogs to almost every European in the several cantonments in Upper India, and as every cantonment above Lahore was infested with thieves, Jock made a large income from the sale of well-trained watch dogs. These dogs were known among native dog fanciers as Jock Esmart's breed for years after Jock's time.

The Ninety-third were sent to Rawalpindi and then to Peshawar, at which latter place they arrived in the month of November, 1861. Jock Smart's watch dogs had become so well known that both he and his dogs often formed the subject of conversation in the messes. There was then a major of the Ex-Company's artillery commanding a battery in Peshawar who had a most savage watch dog of which he was very proud. This major had boasted that there was not a man except himself, who could take this dog off the chain. Some of the officers of the Ninety-third on hearing this said that they would stake a thousand rupees that Jock Smart would unchain the dog without being bitten by him. The bet was duly registered and Jock Smart was sent for. He was found somewhere among his kennels in the bazaar and informed of the conditions of the bet. Jock agreed and said he would take the dog off the chain and not be bitten by him, and the Ninety-third officers might consider they had the thousand rupees in their pockets.

He followed the messenger to the Ninety-third mess, and all those connected with the bet at once proceeded to the major's bungalow in the Artillery lines. The dog was pointed out to Jock, chained to a large box near the door of the bungalow. Jock requested the spectators to keep at a distance and walked straight up to the dog, having first ascertained the range of his chain. The dog flew at Jock in a most savage manner but was met with outflinching with a terrible blow from Jocks clenched fist on his ear that it knocked the brute down stunned. Jock immediately seized him by the back of the neck and shook him with all his might and main till the dog whined, when Jock let him go and quietly patted him. He then undid the chain. The dog, having been completely cowed and mastered, allowed Jock to do anything with him; Jock explained to the assembled gentlemen that all that was required to master the most savage dog was nerve and confidence. If he had in the least flinched from the encounter, when the dog flew at him, he would have undoubtedly been bitten and the dog would have been the master; but being met in the way he was the dog at once recognised that he had met his master, and was from that moment in subjection. What became of Jock after I know not, but that he has flourished and got on ever since I am certain, for he was one who took the tide at the flood and went on to fortune.

—— :o: ——

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PAY OF RANK.

Of Lance-Corporals.—No. 6200, Lance-Corporal J. Lumsden, "F" Company, dated 1st September; No. 3378, Lance-Corporal F. Lynch "F" Company, dated 5th September.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5678, Private G. Marshall, "H" Company, dated 4th September; No. 4619, Private W. McKinnon, "G" Company, dated 13th September, No. 3896, Private A. McLennon, No. 5735; Private J. Stewart, No. 5734, Private A. Gibson; and No. 6098, Private T. Young, "A" Company, dated 20th September.

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To be Piper.—No. 4207, Private R. Nicholson, "G" Company.

To be Acting Piper.—No. 5936, Private R. McKenzie.

WORKSHOP PRIZES.

Awarded 1st Class Workmen's prizes of Rs. 15.

No. 4129, Private R. Wilson, "G" Company.
„ 6174, „ J. Loudon, "G" „
„ 5073, „ G. Morrison, "E" „
„ 5297, „ W. Andrews, "G" „
„ 5253, „ P. Carson, "G" „

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENTS.

"F" COMPANY.

Best Shot of Corporals and Privates.

		£	s.	d.
No. 3344,	Corporal A. Lawrie ...	0	15	0
„ 959,	„ J. Reid	0	11	0
„ 5132,	Private F. Wainwright	0	10	0
„ 4058,	Lance-Corporal G. Buchanon ...	0	9	0
„ 3378,	„ F. Lynch ...	0	8	0
„ 5844,	Private G. Burns	0	7	0
„ 5363,	„ R. McKie	0	6	0
„ 3975,	„ A. Donnelly	0	4	6

Best Shot No. 6 Practice.

No. 5095,	Private L. O'Connor	0	5	10½

Most Improved Shots.

No. 5644,	Lance-Corporal J. Munro ...	0	4	8½
„ 4426,	Private A. McTaggart	0	4	8½
„ 6201,	„ M. Jamieson	0	4	8½
„ 5844,	„ J. Burns	0	4	8½
„ 5265,	„ A. Hamilton	0	4	8

Best shot of Sergeants.

No. 2808,	Sergeant J. Soutar	0	11	9

Best Shooting Section, Table B.

No. 6, Section	... ...	3	10	6
Section Commander.—Sergeant Soutar	...	0	5	10½

BAND AND CASUALS.

Best Shot of Party.

		Company.	£	s.	d.
No. 4344,	Private J. Burns,	"D" ...	0	12	6
„ 2089,	„ T. Lyons,	"E" ...	0	9	0
„ 6218,	„ G. Murphy,	"H" ...	0	8	0
„ 2458,	„ E. Lillywhite,	"B" ...	0	7	0
„ 5653,	„ A. Edwards,	"F" ...	0	6	0
„ 3749,	„ A. Hollands,	"B" ...	0	5	0
„ 4050,	„ E. Lillywhite,	"G" ...	0	5	0

Most Improved Shots.

No. 5382,	Private C. McCue,	"E" ...	0	6	0
„ 5068,	„ G. Watt,	"H" ...	0	6	0
„ 6218,	„ G. Murphy,	"H" ...	0	5	6
„ 3524,	„ J. Hutchinson,	"H" ...	0	4	4½
„ 4168,	„ T. Mansfield,	"E" ...	0	3	1½
„ 6125,	„ G. Patrick	"E" ...	0	3	1½

1ST PARTY CASUALS, SHAHJAHANPUR.

Best Shots of Party.

No. 5479,	Private D. Anderson,	"B" ...	0	10	6
„ 5391,	„ R. Tawse,	"D" ...	0	9	0
„ 5474,	„ J. Scott,	"B" ...	0	6	0
„ 3276,	Corporal J. Ward,	"A" ...	0	6	0
„ 5472,	Private J. Robertson,	"B" ...	0	4	6
„ 5645,	Lce.-Cpl. H. Bracken,	"C" ...	0	4	0
„ 3488,	Private D. Ferguson,	"B" ...	0	2	0

Best Shot, No. 6 Practice.

No. 5543,	Private J. Hurry,	"C" ...	0	2	7½

Commander of Best Shooting Section.

No. 3276,	Corporal J. Ward,	"A" ...	0	2	7½

2ND PARTY OF CASUALS, SHAHJAHANPUR.

Best Shots of Party,

No. 4526,	Corporal W. Watt,	"D"	0	8	0
„ 4704,	Private J. Smith,	"C"	0	5	6
„ 5308,	„ J. Lowe,	"C"	0	4	6

Best Shot, No. 6 Practice.

		Company.	£	s.	d.
No. 4526,	Corporal W. Watt,	"D"	0	1	1½

"C" COMPANY.

Best Shooting Section, Table B	...	3	3	0
Section Commander Col.-Sergt. Gilmour		0	5	3

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years' Service.

No. 4945, Sergeant R. Wright, Unattached List.
„ 2035, Private E. Chidley, "B" Company.
„ 3596, Corporal A. Rankin, "A" „
„ 3276, „ R. Ward, "A" „
„ 3022, „ W. Moat, "A" „
„ 4868, Drummer H. Gifford, "G" „

To complete 12 years' Service.

No. 4207, Piper R. Nicholson, "G" Company.
„ 3395, Private D. Elliott, "D" „

From 2nd Highland Light Infantry.

Private James Ross posted to "E" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d per diem:—

"B" Company.

No. 4161, Private H. Stadams.

"F" Company.

No. 3713, Private J. Campbell.

"H" Company.

No. 4912, Private R. McLeish.

Restored 2d per diem—

"C" Company.

No. 3588, Private W. Trotter.

Granted 1d per diem:—

"C" Company.

No. 5308, Private J. Lowe.

"E" Company.

No. 6277, Private Crichton. | No. 6125, Pte. G. Patrick.

"F" Company.

No. 5644, Lce.-Cpl. J. Munro. | No. 6265, Pte. J. Woodside
„ 6259, Pte. J. Auchinvole. | „ 6263, „ J. McLaren

"G" Company.

No. 5885, Lce.-Cpl. W. Morrison. | No. 6772 Pte. J. Leitch.

No. 6004, Private W. Mullholland.

"H" Company.

No. 6020, Pte. J. McMahon. | No. 5931, Pte. G. Wilson.
„ 6295, „ W. Alder. | „ 6270, „ R. Gray.

Restored 1d per diem—

"A" Company.

No. 6572, Pte. W. Harrison. | No. 5189, Pte H. Allan.

No. 5969, Pte. J. Thomson.

"B" Company.

No. 5504, Pte. G. Stevenson.

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

Granted 3rd Class Certificates, CHAUBATTIA, *dated 6th September* 1899.

No. 3378,	Lce.-Cpl. F. Lynch,	"F"	Company.
„ 5338,	„ C. Fraser,	"E"	„
„ 5644,	„ T. Munro,	"F"	„
„ 5993,	„ G. Sherman,	"H"	„
„ 6663,	Drummer C. Dunne,	"E"	„
„ 6068,	Private A. Smith,	"G"	„
„ 6248,	„ J. Murray,	"G"	„
„ 5926,	„ R. McKenzie,	"H"	„
„ 6104,	„ W. Wilson,	"H"	„
„ 6124,	„ R. Silcock,	"H"	„
„ 5428,	„ J. Brown,	"H"	„
„ 5908,	„ M. McKenzie,	"G"	„
„ 6008,	„ A. Lyon,	"H"	„
„ 6139,	„ T. Paterson,	"H"	„
„ 5409,	„ W. Wilson,	"H"	„
„ 5967,	„ J. Brodie,	"H"	„
„ 6014,	„ A. Baxter,	"F"	„
„ 6566,	Piper C. Hoey,	"H"	„

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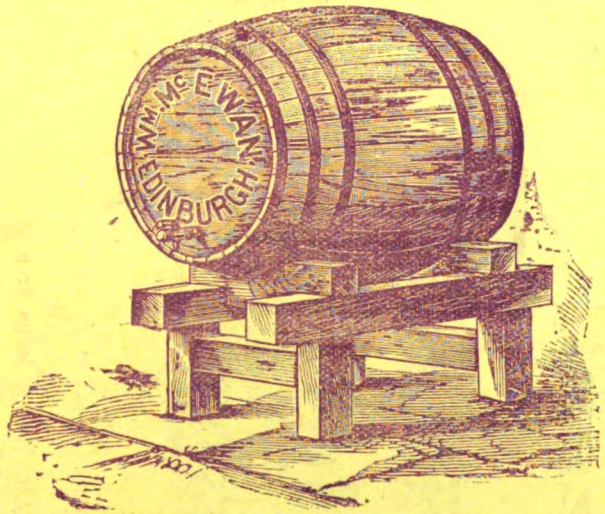

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Nov 1899

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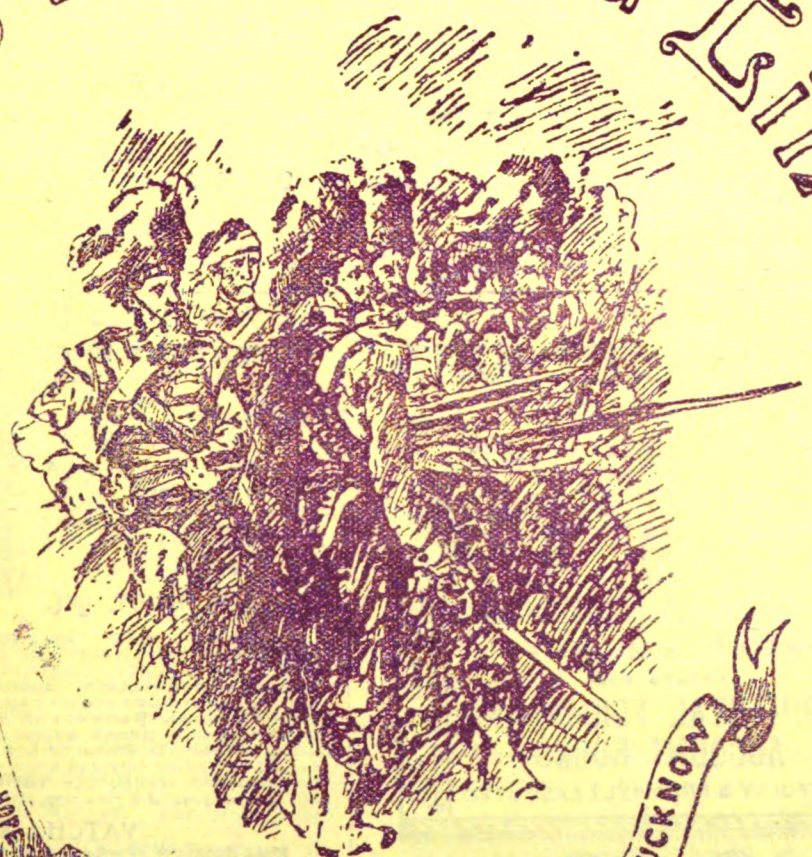
The Thin Red Line.



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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 7—Vol. V. HEAD-QUARTERS, CHAUBATTIA,—NOVEMBER 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE Sergeants' quadrille party on the 4th ult. was, as on the previous occasion, a complete success, and the committee deserve every credit for the tremendous amount of hard work they got through in their preparations for the event. The decorations were arranged with much taste and everything was done that could be done to ensure the comfort and enjoyment of the dancers. The supper was above reproach. The party broke up at 5 A. M., and very few indeed left before the finish.

* * * * *

While on the subject of dancing we must not omit mention of a very jolly series of Cinderellas which the corporals have recently inaugurated, and which are being well attended and very much appreciated. We hear they are going to wind up with a quadrille party shortly, and we wish them every success in their venture.

* * * * *

The return football match with the East Lancashires was played on our ground on the 14th ultimo, and was a real pleasure to witness. Our team played up in greatly improved form, and from start to finish forced their opponents into a defensive game. Where all did so well it would be unfair to attribute special merit to any individual, but the excellent game played by our back division—half and full—is deserving of particular commendation. The game ended in our favour by 3 goals to *nil*, a fair index of the play.

As this may perhaps be the last match in which the two teams will meet for some years to come, it is a favourable opportunity to compare what they have accomplished one against the other during the past two years.

Six matches have been pl yed in all. Last year we won both matches up here (3 to 1, 3 to *nil*). In Bareilly, during the cold season, we lost the first match (1 to *nil*) and won the second (2 to 1). This year there has been a

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repetition of our Bareilly experience, losing our first match (1 to *nil*) and winning the last (3 to *nil*).

Of the six matches we have therefore won 4 and lost 2, with the creditable total of 11 goals to 4 in our favour.

* * * * *

The Transvaal crisis has done at least one good thing. It has saved the "Thin Yin" from a frightful fate. Our own "Pooh Bah" was almost leaving us. He had been granted a furlough home, and had everything packed and ready on the Shahjahanpur railway station platform when a wire arrived detaining him, as all home-going details other than invalids had been ordered to "stand fast."

* * * * *

There is but little to record of the doings of the Head-quarter Wing during the last few weeks of its stay in Chaubattia.

On Monday, 16th October, the regimental eleven went over to Ranikhet, and played the Standing Camp at football on the East Lancashire's ground. Earlier in the season the two teams had met, and on that occasion our opponents were vanquished rather easily. Before the 16th ultimo we heard a great deal of talk about the improved form of the Standing Camp team, and the match was, therefore, looked forward to with some interest. A number of 93rd men went over to witness the play and were amply rewarded for their walk. We had the best of the game throughout; MacKenzie particularly distinguishing himself even to the extent of winning a begrudgingly bestowed meed of applause from the unsympathetic, not to say hostile, major portion of the crowd of spectators. The result was the same as in the recent match with the East Lancashire—3 goals to *nil* in our favour. Our team, with two exceptions, was composed as on that occasion. Benson taking Hudghton's place and Kerr replacing Baker. Hudghton and Baker were both unavoidably absent, the former being at Lucknow, going through a gymnastic course, the latter in hospital.

On Wednesday and Thursday, 18th and 19th ultimo, the annual sports of the East Lancashire regiment were held on the parade ground at Ranikhet, and were very well attended and successful. The second day was of most interest to us, for on that day took place the two open events, the "Mile" and "Tug-of-war" for which the 93rd had entered. We were well represented in the "Mile." Mossman had come up a few days previously from Shahjahanpur apparently in good condition, and McColl had trained well in Chaubattia.

Mossman led off at a good pace and maintained the lead for half the distance. Then he gave place to McColl, Farrer of the East Lancashires being close up. Two laps from the finish McColl forged ahead, and, to the dismay of the 93rd, it now began to be seen that Mossman was out of condition. The hopes of the Highlanders were now centred on McColl, and he did not disappoint them. He increased his lead in very fine style, and won easily. Farrer was second and Mossman third.

Mossman attempted too much in the short time at his disposal. The sudden change of climate completely upset his usual form. But he ran pluckily, coming with a grand spurt, and had he given himself a greater margin for preparation would doubtless not have belied his reputation. McColl is to be congratulated on his splendid win.

* * * * *

The East Lancashires won the "Tug" easily. No one of us was sanguine enough to expect success. With but half a battalion to select from, we could not possibly enter on equal terms with our opponents. The result, despite our splendid win of last year under similar conditions, was a foregone conclusion.

* * * * *

A new departure, and a happy one, was the Gymkhana held at Chaubattia on Saturday, 21st ultimo. Despite the cold wind, which made the lot of the spectator not altogether a comfortable one after the sun went down, a large number turned out to see the fun. The favourite

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items were the Balaclava Mêlée, and the open quarter mile. The Mêlée was both exciting and amusing, and hugely enjoyed. Mossman's win in the quarter mile was a very fine performance, and some recompense to him for his discomfiture at Ranikhet on the previous Thursday. Comrie and McColl were a good second and third, respectively.

———: o :———

Notes of the Right Wing at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

Another month, October, is over, and despite many rumours and all the "very latests" to the contrary, the Right Wing is still at Shahjahanpur. No longer "under the punkah" certainly, punkahs having been dispensed with since the 14th of the month; yet although their monotonous creak no longer annoys and summer clothing is not quite so universal as formerly, the weather still remains on the warm side during the day time, and parades are still at any early hour, whilst there is yet, when the sun's rays are perpendicular, a tendency to cling to all available shade.

On the 3rd October Major Stanley Paterson assumed command of the wing, having joined from the home battalion.

Many things of interest of the "entertainment" order have occurred during the last thirty-one days, so it is advisable to take them in their proper sequence.

First and foremost the "Maven Company" held the boards of the Regimental Theatre for two nights, 4th and 5th ultimos, and were well patronised on both occasions. Then on the afternoon of Saturday, the 7th, there was a water gala in the swimming bath, which was also well attended, though it did not seem to "catch on" quite so well as the aquatic entertainment given in the same place during the early part of the summer. Still there was a good turnout and one or two amusing incidents kept the spectators in a particularly good humour. A haunting fear of a too personal acquaintance with the water however, born probably of a previous experience, seemed to prevent that pleasant crowding which was so noticeable on the occasion of the previous entertainment and which was answerable for so much of its success.

The races were very keenly contested, the water polo match was as exciting as on the previous occasion, though the teams were hardly so evenly matched, and the yacht race (the yachts were tubs) in which "Clutha No. 20" bore the well known triangular yellow *jhandi* emblazoned with a red disc, so familiar to all, to victory was very funny indeed, whilst the displays by Private Pollock, especially his imitation of the struggles of a drowning man, were excellent. The following is the programme of events, with results:—

ROYAL MAIL RACE (FIRST HEATS).

"*A*" v. "*D*" *Company.*—Won by the latter in 2 minutes 30 seconds.

"*D*" *Company Team.*—Privates Connell, Tawse, Campbell and Pollock.

"*B*" v. "*C*" *Company.*—Won by "C" in 2 minutes 20 seconds.

"*C*" *Company Team.*—Privates Wright, Anderson, Farquharson and Kennedy.

EXHIBITION FLOATING.

Privates Robertson and Pollock, "D" Company.

ROYAL MAIL RACE (FINAL).

"*C*" v. "*D*" *Company.*—Won by "C" Company. Time 2 minutes 18 seconds.

EXHIBITION PORPOISE SWIMMING BY PTE. ROBERTSON.

GRACEFUL DIVING.

Lance-Corporal Ure, "B"	...	...	...	...	1
Private Kennedy, "C"	...	...	...	...	2

YACHT RACE.

"Clutha No. 20,"	"Skipper,"	Kennedy	...	1
"Columbia,"	„	Armour	...	2
"Shamrock,"	„	Peacock	...	fouled

MIDNIGHT RACE (FINAL).

Private D. Campbell,	"A"	...	...	...	1
„ Tawse,	"D"	...	...	...	2

PLUNGING.

Private Farquharson,	"C"	...	...	...	1
„ Pollock,	"D"	...	...	...	2

WATER POLO MATCH.

Olds (*A* & *C*) v. *Evens* (*B* & *D*).

ODDS (2 goals).

ALLAN "A"
FARQUHARSON "C"
WRIGHT "C," CAMPBELL "A," ANDERSON "C,"
O
ATHERTON "B," THOMSON "B," CAMPBELL "D,"
POLLOCK "D,"
LANCE-CORPORAL URE "B,"

EVENS (*nil*).

On the 12th there was a Gymkhana on the race-course followed by some other things making almost a "Shahjahanpur Week." For an account of this it is impossible to say more than "A Visitor" who wrote thusly to the *Pioneer* a few days afterwards:—

"It has ever been a source of regret to the outside world that but scanty opportunities are to be found in your columns for sharing the joys and sorrows of the charming little station of Shahjahanpur. Never the time, the place, and the ready writer all together is but a poor reply to offer to so countless a multitude of would-be sympathisers. After the events of Thursday last, it has surely become impossible for the deeds of Shahjahanpur to remain hidden, and even the most illiterate must take his pen and write.

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Under the auspices of the D. S. P. a really excellent open racing gymkhana was held on October 12th. The cordial invitations extended to Bareilly and Lucknow were warmly responded to, with the result that a very fair lot of ponies assembled, and the fixture was thoroughly enjoyable in every way. A charming little race-course had been laid out previously. The grand stand, it is true, had been mistaken for the 600 yards shooting stage, but this did not seem to affect the ponies. The Committee, of whom Mr. Murray has been the heart and soul, deserve all praise for their arrangements, which were excellent throughout. The programme was a good one, and produced several exciting finishes. The details of the gymkhana were as follows :—

FIRST RACE.—*Novice Stakes.* Flat race for ponies 14 hands and under. Distance, 3 furlongs.
Mr. Murray's g c-b h SCAMP, 10st. 6lb (Mr. Ellis) 1
Captain Geddes' ch a h WILL-O'-THE-WISP, 11st. 11lb. (Owner) 2
Also ran :—The Boy, Sammy, Robin Adair, The Count and Mafeesh.

A splendid race and a very close finish ; Scamp winning by a short neck.

SECOND RACE.—*The Stick Stakes.* Hurdle race for ponies 14-1 and under. Distance, 1 mile.
Captain Geddes' ch a g GINGER, 9st. 9lb. (Ali Yar Khan), ... 1
Mr. Stiffe's g a h JUPITER, 13st. 2lb. (Owner) ... 2
Also ran :—Nutmeg, Leap, Spark and Elmas. Won with a good bit in hand.

THIRD RACE.—*The Powayan Stakes.* Hurdle race for all horses. Distance, 1 mile.
Mr. Alexander's b aus m JABBER WOCH, 10st. (Mr. Coker) 1
Mr. Graham's br aus g SNODGRASS, 10st. 7lb. (Mr. Ellis) 2
Also ran :—Alessandro, Stephan, and Poulos. Won easily.

FOURTH RACE.—*The Maiden Plate.* Flat race for ponies 14-1 and under. Distance, ½ mile.
Captain Geddes' g a h POLAR BEAR, 10st. 11lb. (Owner) 1
Mr. Hume's g a h SAMMY, 11st. 6lb. (Mr. DuBoulay) .. 2
Also ran :—The Count and Robin Adair. Won easily.

FIFTH RACE.—*The Polo Scurry.* Distance, ¼ mile.
Mr. G. E. Chaplin's g a d MAFEESH (Mr. Last) ... 1
Captain Geddes' ch a h WILL-O'-THE-WISP (Owner) ... 2
Also ran :—The Boy, Firoz, Firebrand, Strawberry and Sinbad.

A splendid race. Won by half a head.

SIXTH RACE.—*Bahadarganj Stakes.* Plate race for all horses the property of native gentlemen. Distance, 6 furlongs.

Won by Abas Ali Khan's b c b m Baluchi.

Major Patterson kindly officiated as starter, and Major Morwood and Captain Maurice as judges. Lotteries were held at the Club, and were well attended and productive of much excitement. The Shahjahanpur ladies in frocks indescribable by a mere male and absolutely bewildering hats dispersed a lavish hospitality on the course.

The gymkhana over—the kindness of the station would not allow its numerous guests to depart, and the Thursday racing was followed on Friday by an exciting compartment cricket match, and on Saturday by a polo match between Shahjahanpur and Bareilly, the teams being composed as follow :—*Bareilly*—1, Mr. Campbell; 2, Mr. Fremantle; 3, Major Ovens ; 4, Captain Geddes. *Shahjahanpur*—1, Mr. Kennedy ; 2, Mr. Herbert ; 3, Mr. Murray; 4, Mr. Hart. The game was very fast throughout Shahjahanpur, handicapped by having several of their best ponies incapacitated, were out-played by Bareilly who eventually won by 8 goals and 5 subsidiaries to 1 goal.

And this was the end. But on one decision all we who had been guests agreed as we met on the railway platform, and that is—we are going back again to Shahjahanpur as soon as possible.

To revert to things purely regimental, next came a shooting match between the Sergeants and Corporals of the Wing. This took place on Thursday, 19th ultimo. The Sergeants were the challengers, were "At Home" and won! What more can be said! The shooting was hardly up to Meerut form, though Sergeant Ewan made a good 90, and the Corporals were only one hundred and forty-nine points behind when the final scores were totalled. The following are the details of the match :—

SERGEANTS.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergeant J. Ewan	30	32	28	90
Colour Sergeant R. Gilmour ...	23	31	25	78
,, ,, R. Mitchell ...	32	27	18	77
Sergeant R. Millar	31	26	19	76
,, C. Johnstone	27	23	24	74
Colour Sergeant T. Chaplin ...	24	29	21	73
Sergeant H. Crawford	23	24	25	72
,, J. Durnan	20	21	22	63
,, R. Dunkeld	30	21	12	61
,, T. Campbell	20	10	31	61
		Total		727

CORPORALS.

Lce.-Corporal W. Wilson	27	21	28	76
Corporal H. Williams	24	20	22	66
,, W. Moat	26	26	14	66
Lce.-Corporal Bracken	24	20	17	61
,, ,, G. Ure	19	25	12	56
Corporal Ward	14	18	14	56
Lce. Corporal J. Soutar	23	15	18	56
,, ,, D. Gordon	20	22	13	55
,, ,, A. McLennon ...	15	8	22	45
,, ,, J. Stewart	18	20	3	41
		Total		578

A series of Balaclava celebrations come next. The wing branch of the Army Temperance Association somewhat anticipated the anniversary by having a concert and presentation of medals in the Theatre on the 23rd. The usual "tea-fight" had preceded this entertainment, and was, according to information received, the usual success, "Johnson" having been working over time for several days previously to meet the demands made upon him The concert was somewhat of the "go as you please" order, but decidedly entertaining in parts and particularly lengthy, for it commenced about eight o'clock and continued until midnight. Major Stanley Paterson, who came accompanied by the officers, took the chair upon his arrival, and at the conclusion of the concert spoke most encouragingly of temperance in the wing, and gave much good and sound advice. Mrs. Maclean most graciously presented the medals, and at the close the "Queen" was heartily rendered.

The following day was devoted to preparing the ground for the sports. A corner of the maidan

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in front of the "Mutty" barracks was selected for the scene of the contests and by Tuesday evening almost all was ready for the following day.

The ties for 100 yards, hurdles and three-legged race were run off in the early morning of the 25th, whilst throwing the cricket ball was also decided before breakfast, leaving the remainder of the programme to be completed during afternoon. Shortly after three o'clock the serious business commenced, and from that hour till long after dusk, for it was quite dark before the Consolation Race could be run. the committee were busy. The members of both the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes were "At Home" on the ground during the afternoon, and dispensed hospitality to their guests. During the afternoon a gymnastic team under Corporal Williams gave a very clever and daring display on the horizontal and parallel bars, concluding with "Palmer's Leap" by the instructor himself. At the conclusion of the day the prizes were presented by Mrs. Maclean; then three cheers were given for Major Paterson, three more for Mrs. Maclean and the crowd of spectators had dispersed. The following is a list of the prize winners for the different events:—

1. THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.

Private McLennon, "D" (91 yds. 1 foot)	...	1
" Stevenson, "B" }	...	2 and 3
" Crawford, "D" }		
" Gibson "C"	...	4

2. 100 YARDS FLAT RACE.

Private Mossman, "B"	...	1
" Cairns, "D"	...	2
" Dick, "A"	...	3

3. LONG JUMP.

Private Cairns, "D" (18 feet)	...	1
" McLennon, "D"	...	2

4. THREE-LEGGED RACE.

Privates Peacock and Tawse, "D"	...	1
" Monteith and Burke, "D"	...	2
" Anderson and Flynn, "A"	...	3
" Clements and Snedden, "C"	...	4

5. PUTTING THE SHOT (7 FEET RUN).

Private McInnes, "B" (31 feet 11 inches)	...	1
" McLennon, "D" (31 feet ½ inch)	...	2
" Reeves, "D" (30 feet 4 inches)	...	3

6. 120 YARDS HURDLE RACE.

Private Cairns, "D"	...	1
" Mossman, "B"	...	2
" Hurry, "C"	...	3

7. BUN AND LEMONADE RACE.

Private Allan, "D" }		
" Erley, "A" }	...	1
Drummer Gibbon, "B"	...	2
Private Flynn, "A"	...	3

8. CHILDRENS' RACE (GIRLS).

Jeannie Dunkeld	...	1
Annie Mitchell	...	2
Alice Campbell	...	3
Dollie Bates	...	4

8. CHILDRENS' RACE (Boys).

James Mitchell	...	1
Archibald Campbell	...	2
Robert Mitchell	...	3
James Jackson	...	4

9. TOSSING THE CABER.

Private Anderson, "B"	...	1
Corporal Moat, "A"	...	2
Private W. Robinson, "B"	...	3

10. HIGHLAND FLING.

Piper Findlayson, "D"	...	1
" Maclean, "B"	...	2

11. THROWING THE HAMMER.

Private Cross, "D"	...	1
Corporal Moat, "A"	...	2
Private Crawford, "D"	...	3

12. ONE MILE FLAT RACE.

Private Ferguson, "D" (70 yards)	...	1
" Mossman, "B" (Scratch)	...	2
" Peacock, "D" (25 yards)	...	3

13. PIPE PLAYING (MARCH, STRATHSPEY AND REEL).

Piper Maclean, "B"	...	1
" Findlayson, "D"	...	2

14. BALACLAVA MELEE.

"A" Company Team	...	1
"D" " "	...	2

15. QUARTER MILE FLAT RACE (HANDICAP).

Private Quinn, "A" (30 yards)	...	1
" Peacock, "D" (25 ")	...	2
" Tawse, "D" (20 ")	...	3

16. N. C. O.'s RACE.

Sergeant Beavis, "C" }		
Corporal Maskell, "B" }		
" J. Allison, "D" }	...	
" Houston, "D" }		

17. PIQUET RACE.

Private Harrison, "A"	...	1
" Burke, "D"	...	2

18. CONSOLATION RACE.

Private A. Allan, "A"	...	1
" M. Gannon, "A"	...	2
" Henderson, "A"	...	3
" Muir, "B"	...	4

GYMNASTIC DISPLAY TEAM.

Privates J. Allan, Armour, Thomson, "A," McGee, "B," McDonald "C," Robertson and McConnell, "D."

To celebrate the evening the Independent Order of Rechabites, who were entertaining friends from Bareilly for some days, had a concert in their "Tent" room, which was well attended by the Rechabites themselves added to a few others who had received invitations.

The Sergeants of the Wing did not commemorate the anniversary of the "thin red line" in any special manner. In fact, the Sergeants of the battalion have not held a "Balaclava Day" since Nowshera 1896 (though last year the Sergeants of the left wing then at Shahjahanpur had a celebration), for the 25th October 1897 was spent in the tiresome Tochi, whilst last year at head-quarters the Almora manœuvres intervened. Still "Departed Comrades," drunk in the usual silence, was not forgotten in the Sergeants' Mess of the Right Wing, Ninety-third Sutherland Highlanders, on the Twenty-fifth day of October 1899— "Lest we forget."

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Wing Corporals' Picnic.

—o—

The Corporals did not forget "Balaclava," though they were a day late with the celebration. They arranged a picnic for Thursday, 26th ultimo, commandeered all available gharries, and by 8 A.M. on that date were away in the direction of Rosa. They arrived at their destination shortly after nine and immediately held an impromptu Gymkhana to while away the time until the catering had been completed. The following were the events:—

I.—THE TATU TEASER—1,000 yards flat race for C. Bs. *not* the property of riders.

D. B. L.—D. C. H., Tee-totaller, Corporal Houston ...	1
B. B. M., Barleycorn, Lance-Corporal J. Stewart ...	2
B. H. T.-K. R. A. B., Bobbery, Corporal Moat ...	3

II.—100 YARDS FLAT RACE.

Corporal Mahoney	1
„ Moat	2
Lance-Corporal Gibson	3

III.—GHARI WALLAHS' RACE.

Names of winners unintelligible—(Ed.)

IV.—OBSTACLE RACE.

Corporal Mahoney	1
Lance-Corporal Boyd	2
Corporal Moat	3

After these interesting contests, which had put every one in most excellent fettle for the sterner realities of picnicing, came "tiffin" and then those who were sufficiently energetic strolled round to enjoy the beauties of nature; whilst later on choruses became *de rigueur* and so the shadows gradually lengthened and each ghari, with its load of pleasure-seekers in a more or less contented frame of mind, retook its journey homeward towards Shahjahanpur.

———:o:———

The Wing J. T. J.

—o—

The following is a list of the honours distributed on the 22nd October:—

FIVE YEARS' MEDAL.

Lance-Corporal W. Stewart,	"B" Company.
Private Mossman	"B" „

THREE YEARS' STAR.

Private Dale	"C" Company.
„ Lapsley	"D" „

TWO YEARS' BAR.

Private Simpson	"D" Company.
„ Tawse	"D" „
Corporal Houston	"D" „

ONE YEAR MEDAL.

Private Forbes	"A" Company.
„ McFarlane	"B" „
„ Donnelly	"B" „
„ D. White	"C" „
„ Cassidy	"C" „
„ Harkness	"C" „
„ Kerr	"D" „
„ Cairns	"D" „
„ Davie	"D" „

SIX MONTHS' STAR.

Privates Fletcher, Gray, Dick, McArthur and Thompson, "A" Company.
Privates McKay, McDermott, Montgomery, McDonald, A. McIntyre, Gillett-y, "B" Company.
Private McBride, "C" Company.
Private Monteith, McLennan, McMichael and Marshall, "D" Company.

MOTTO RINGS.

Corporal Allison	"B"	Company.
Private Thomas	"B"	„
„ Coleman	"C"	„

———:o:———

What the Parrot at Shahjahanpur is saying.

—o—

THAT the sports cam' off efter a'.
That ane o' the competitors kent it brawly.
That it wis a case o' "Here upon guard am I."
That the sportin' Company wis poorly represented.
That the bunrace wis a gran' success.
That it took a while tae spot the winner.
That it wis a case o' the "Erley" bird scoffin' the bun.
That the shot seemed awfu' heavy.
That he ocht tae visit the bacon-wallah.
That they fairly gaed their mile.
That it wants tae ken if he's rinnin' yet.
That if you want tae ken the time. "Ha" "Ha" "Ha."
That the caber wanted "a little bit off the top."
That its packin' its haverpoke.
That it'll soon be ha'in' a crack wi' its cousin.

———:o:———

Shahjahanpur Sport.

—o—

PRIDE OF WESTMORLAND (BORDER REGIMENT) *Versus* EXCELSIOR (93RD).

"*Pride of Westmorland*"—Allen 0, Roberts 0, Bell 1, Rossiter 1, Barlow 2, Harriss 0, Underhill 39, Masters 7, Haycock 15, McKernon (not out) 8, Stubbs 1, Extras 6, Total 72.

"*Excelsior*"—Lapsley 1, 0, Montgomery 2 (not out) 5, Donnelly 9, 5. Thomas 3, 9. McEwan 1, 17. Mossman 13, 1. Hanton 0, 3. Gillerly 4, 1. Rastall 0, 8. Dick 0, 6, Halkerston (not out) 0, 0. Extras 7, 6. Totals 41, 56.

Representatives from the same "Tents" met at Football afterwadrs' "Excelsior" being victorious.

Scores "Excelsior" 3 Goals.
Pride of Westmorland—*Nil.*

Published for Information.

—o—

Said "Sherbert"—"Demitall"
Can no one in the room sing"
From behind a whisky tall
Came the pleasant gurgle "Tum sing."

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Temperance at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

Revels with Rechabites.

It may not be generally admitted, but it is quite possible to celebrate Balaclava with nothing stronger "to go" than tea and lemonade. The Brethren of Tent Excelsior, No. 190, I. O. R., have proved it up to the hilt. They had quite a busy celebration of the "thin red line" of glorious memory. They were receiving a return visit from the membership of Pride of Westmorland Tent, No. 117, which is the sister organisation of the Border Regiment at Bareilly, and they left no stone unturned to improve the occasion and show the genuineness of their hospitality. They met and welcomed their brethren at the railway station, they took them to witness the wing sports, then they carted them off to a "Tea and Concert" and kept them awake until midnight. The next day they played them at cricket and then beat them at football and wound up the evening and the visit by holding a "Tent" Sessions especially for their visitors.

It must be admitted that the most of this information has been conveyed to me by others, for strange as it may seem, I must admit that I am not myself a disciple of Rechab. Still I saw and heard the concert (the most important part of the entertainment) and assimilated a proportion of the liquids, so should know something about the benefits of Rechabitism. I have also been asked to use my influence with the Editor, and he has most generously alloted me as many pages of his valuable paper as I can conveniently fill. With such unbounded courtesy all round what can I do but take up my pen (a "Hindu," by the way I'm so interested in the poor native) and do my best.

I was somewhat late in leaving the sports ground, and then my keepers would persist in my taking some dinner, and I couldn't possibly forget "Departed Comrades" and the various other little etceteras incidental to the walnuts and wine—I beg pardon, I mean lemonade—period of a Balaclava day. Consequently I was unable to arrive at the hall quite early enough to hear the opening speeches, but came just in time to be impressed by the latter part of the Rev. Mr. Brackstock's remarks upon temperance. The reverend gentleman resumed his seat amidst applause and a "Westmorland" representative having been asked, and having consented, to occupy the chair the concert under his direction commenced.

I should tire the patience of even the staunchest tee-totaller, I'm afraid, were I to give a full account of the programme, so will only generalise. Private Thomas opened with "When London sleeps," then came songs by Bell and Haycock of "Pride of Westmorland" followed by an effort from Morrison; then Hanlon, "it being Balaclava day" as he said, gave us "something Scotch" in the shape of "Bannets o' Blue;" Thomson and Coleman, "Excelsior" Tent, and Harris and Rossiter of "Westmorland" kept up the swing and were followed by Armour with "Only one girl in the world for me," the sentiment of which we all echoed. About this time there was a further influx of visitors (ladies) whose interest in the proceedings it is pleasing to notice. Sergeant Durnan rose to the occasion and sang "7th Royal Fusiliers" in his best style, whilst Messrs. Allison, Montgomery, Lapsley, Mossman, Tawse and Halkerston all added something to the programme. A charming contrast was in the next item contributed by one of the lady visitors, Miss J. Teyen, who sang "Barney, take me home again" very sweetly indeed (Why! Oh, why! were my inclinations in the choice of a name never consulted at my baptism!) Then there were several more songs by members of "Excelsior" Tent followed by a halt for refreshment.

The second part of the programme went with a much better swing than the first part, which I can hardly account for, unless it be explained by the fact that the majority of visitors had left by this time and the singers were beginning to recover from their bashfulness, which is so characteristic of the soldier in the presence of strangers, especially if they be of the fair sex. One of the first songs was by Inspector Atkinson, N.-W. P. and Oudh Police. It was "Villikins and his Dinah" in the vernacular, and the chorus arranged to suit the individual taste and knowledge of Hindustani possessed by the singers was howled until the thatch of the bungalow showed signs of loosening. More songs by Sergeant Johnstone and Messrs. Thomas, Bell, Haycock, Thomson, and Armour followed in quick succession, bringing in Hanlon again, who had certainly been hiding his light under a bushel. He gave a very funny skit entitled "The Puttee King" and when called upon for an encore re-appeared in the sleek black garment and "ikey" cap of the local native got up to kill and sang "I'm a saft kintra chiel" in his broadest Scotch—a very amusing combination indeed. Hanlon is a very popular brother of "Excelsior," I believe, and his popularity can easily be accounted for. Several more songs with good choruses followed, and we were eventually reminded of the brevity of all things—even of Balaclava days—by the chairman's (Chief Ruler's, I believe, I should say) hammer. Private Lapsley then spoke very

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sensibly for a few minutes and was especially complimentary in his reference to the regimental paper. I was trying to invent something nice in the way of a reply when the singing of "God Save the Queen" intervened and probably saved me from being

OUT OF ORDER.

———— : o : ————

From Bareilly to Blighty.

—o—

(BY AN INDIFFERENT CHARACTER.)

"Now, take my advice, Saints, never speak twice,
So take it at once, as I once for all give it;
Go Home! you'll find there all as right as a trivet."

Ingoldsby Legends.

A soldier might be truly described as a human being without a conscience, a time-expired soldier *en route* for home is much worse,—in the words of the coster, "there aint no bloomin' word for 'im."

The party of time-expired men, of which I formed one, paraded in front of the Orderly Room at 11-40 on the morning of the 20th December 1898 and marched off, after inspection, under the charge of Sergeant Wully Miller and Corporal Spud Murphy, but ere we were clear of our lines I was requested to act as Drum Major, and being ever of an obliging disposition, albeit somewhat modest, I complied, and at once headed straight for the Artillery Canteen.

The first three sections of fours were lucky enough to get a wet before our Sairgint exerted his authority; fortunately old Nobby Clark of the artillery was on the look-out for me with a half gallon can newly filled, which, greatly to my credit, I emptied, and, let me casually remark, that it did not take me long.

An advance was then made on Bareilly Station, which was reached about 12-25, where by a judicious transfer of three G. C. Badges to the dcosera arm, several bottles of Napier Johnstone were succesfully negotiated for at the refreshment buffet. After some considerable sky-larking, though no one was off-side, we were safely stowed away in the train, and at 1-10 P.M. we steamed out of Bareilly Station bound for Bombay.

Nothing of interest occurred with the exception of a successful raid on a Refreshment Room at one of the stations, where our school consisting of Twiggey, John Sutherland, Jimmy Hall, McNally and your humble, engineered a grand supply of bread and cheese, and six bottles of beer *backsheesh*, with which we whiled away the time till Aligarh was reached about 8-45 P.M; here we were allowed a pint a man (an elastic term if you know the ropes), and dinner was served out some time during the night.

We slept in the train, but two others and myself, securing the services of an intelligent native, made a personally conducted tour to a not altogether Eve less Eden, where we held a Durbar till early morning, when we rejoined our sleeping comrades about 7-30 A.M.

Agra was reached at 10 A.M., and here we got a very good view of the world-renowned Taj, and ran close alongside the fort for a considerable distance. This Fort is, I suppose, one of the largest in India. At Gwalior, where we arrived about 12-30, we noticed a large rock, in fact a small table-mountain walled in round the top, which we decided must be the residence of the Rajah or whatever the Gwalior potentate is termed.

We ran into Jhansi early in the afternoon, but were kept in the train till we all got fed-up, and then shunted around until it was quite 5 P.M. before we detrained. However, when at last we got out our baggage and formed up, the order was "Pick up your parrots, left turn, quick march," and off we went, and were told off into any tents for the night, and after stowing away our goods and chattels we adjourned to the canteen where we found the beer bad and measure worse, though being wet we drank it, and made a supper off cold meat, pickles and *roti*.

Jhansi rest camp was the best laid out camp that I ever saw in India, and the way the tent pegs were dressed would have delighted our late Colonel J. D. Fetherstonhaugh.

Next morning the whole of the newly arrived time-expired men paraded at 8-45 A.M., and were told off into sections by the camp Sergeant-Major, a smart soldier-like looking chap, who unfortunately was minus that old familiar whistle so dear to us of the 93rd. We were put into No. 5 Section and after taking up the tent allotted to us and bearing in mind the condition of the Jhansi beer we took council together, and rumours reaching us of the excellence of the "pongelo" retailed by the artillery, we fitted out an expedition, and succesfullly advanced on the canteen of the 32nd Battery R. A., lately arrived from Dongola, where the quality and measure of the beer even exceeded our most sanguine expectations.

I may mention that it is laid down in orders that any one leaving camp without a pass is liable to be shot, or any less punishment as is in this Act mentioned, but that did not trouble us in the slightest, for were we not bound for Blighty.

Any one with a *tora* common *mullum* need only stroll out of camp in a diametrically opposite direction to the Artillery lines, and when by a dip in the ground well out of sight, turn sharply to the left and steer for the Railway line where some 800 yards from the rest camp they will

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find a small tunnel, pass through that and by a slight elevation of the nose the beer can be sniffed, (it is only half a mile off); we took our bearings so accurately that we landed at the canteen door precisely at opening time, and chummed in with two Dongola heroes, who better than all their bravery in action insisted on paying their whack.

We were present at both issues, morning and evening, and returned safely to camp, with only the trifling loss of one man, who, however, turned up in time for parade next morning, after which we made a most important discovery, namely, that by going to the Sergeants' Mess cook-house it was all *atcha*.

After a few sighting shots we visited Jhansi cemetery, which although out of bounds had to be visited as it lay near the Artillery lines, and there I noticed numerous graves of old 9 and 3 men chiefly those of—

Ensign J. T. Scott, died, 1869.
Color-Sergeant and Q. R. S. John McLaren, died, 1868.
Private Ramsay, died 1867.
Son of Private W. Stewart, died, 1866.

I should imagine that about 1869 there must have been some epidemic as that year seemed to have claimed the most victims.

After leaving the cemetery we accidentally passed the R. A. Canteen, and as it was open, well! what do you think?

We reached camp once more in safety, entrained at 5-30 P.M., and were kept in the train till our arrival at Hoshungabad, where the rest camp is situated some 400 yards from the station. Here we had small field service tents, 8 men to each, the bread was excellent, but the beer—*bahut crab*—and the measure worse; in fact the beer was so bad that a complaint about it was made to the Medical Officer, and, strange to say, with good results, for the barrel was condemned and for about 10 minutes the Canteen Sergeant served out real beer. The shock must have caused him many a sleepless night.

We entrained at 6 P.M., well supplied with meat sandwiches, and each of our party had a *tora* in a bottle wrapped up in his blankets, and after the usual amount of swearing, shouting of choruses and a few remarks by the funny man for the day we fell off into snatches of sleep, and arrived at Khanwa at 4 o'clock the following morning, but did not leave the train till 7 A. M.

A great treat awaited us at Khanwa in the shape of comfortable bungalows, in fact there was really nothing to grouse at, and a stretch on a well filled coir bed improved every one's temper, and most of us were sorry when at 4-30 P. M. we had to entrain, and without further incident arrived at Deolali, about 8-30 the following morning.

Deolali is not so bad as it is painted, but owing to the enormous number of troops there one has, like the London sparrow, to look sharp if he wants a hot meal, and without doubt there are a lot of vexatious parades and inspections; the worst duty is carrying rations. During the 15 days I was there, I drew rations twice, and did one Officer's quarters picquet, which is practically a guard; still the institutes are very good; a decent shell-out player, such as Mack or Pot Smith, could make a tidy bit there by going down on pass for a fortnight, as one table in the billiard-room is reserved for that game and the stakes are 2 and 4 annas a ball. I did not do so badly myself.

The *bazaar* is, I should think, one of the cheapest in India, and men going home should wait till they get there before purchasing many curios; the native's *first* customer gets his goods at his own price practically, as the niggers seem somewhat superstitious, and fancy if their first customer goes without making a purchase it betokens a bad day's trade.

I made some very good bargains, and find the presents most appreciated here are brass work and the better class gold (or so-called) wire embroidery; those that I brought over have kept their colour very well, and among my male friends the two-anna stud sets took a trick.

We had several gaffs, one is always given as a farewell to men whose names are out for a ship, and also to any drafts arriving for up-country: the draftie is an unmistakeable animal and invariably wears the ikyly ent ship's *kharki*, the shop-keeper has two distinct prices one for the time-expired and one for the draft.

The draft for our regiment arrived on the 6th January, and I had the honor of being presented to the only result of the 91st recruiting expedition of 1898, and was informed that he was the most expensive recruit in the British army; I was sorry to part from him on the 8th.

We left Deolali on the 10th January 1899, on which date I was appointed servant to a Lieutenant of the H. L. I., he was alive when I last saw him at Southampton, and embarked at Bombay at 8-30 A. M. on the 11th, and kicked off for home at 11 A. M. Home, Home, Sweet Home!

Life on board a hired transport is much different to that on a trooper; my time was chiefly employed in dodging my boss, and teaching other men's parrots to swear; we had two gaffs at each of which I appeared, as each artiste received a bottle of Guinness' Stout.

There was a very good programme of sports, and I somewhat distinguished myself by coaching the winning team; it happened thusly:—

On all board were divided into 4 sections and each section could enter two teams. Well, in our section, No. 4, were the Leinsters who wanted to put in a team of their own, so to get up another team I went round the details of different

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regiments composing the section and enquired from each if they had any men that had pulled in their regimental team: result, I got 6 regimental men and 2 who had always pulled for their company, and my team won easily. In the final against the artillery they walked away with them so quickly that I gave the order "stop doubling," at which the artillery were wroth, and for a few minutes I expected a rehearsal of the ancient tragedy of Jonah.

The team was:—

No. 1	Private	Fullbrook ...	* 93rd
„ 2	„	Hann	* 3rd Rifle Brigade.
„ 3	„	Gissing	Durham L. I.
„ 4	„	McNally	93rd
„ 5	„	Carter	* Northamptons.
„ 6	„	Coulras	* Yorkshire L. I.
„ 7	„	Mitchell ...	* York and Lancs.
„ 8	„	Goldsmith (Tiny)	* Derbyshire.
Coach	„	Macgregor D. C.	93rd

* Regimental men.

The voyage home was uneventful, no one was born, died, or married. We passed Aden on the 16th, entered the Suez, 21st, arrived at Malta, 25th, when Vickery the Dorset V. C. came on board, passed Gibraltar, 28th, lay off Netley, February 1st, and disembarked, 2nd, at 10-45 A. M.; left Southampton 12-45, and arrived at Fort Brockhurst, 2-15 P. M., and marched to Fort Elsom, about ¾ mile distant; we lay there two nights, and on the 4th of February we were sent in troop trains to our various destinations.

We all did quick change artists at Fort Brockhurst on the 4th, when we went in soldiers and came out civilians, no one could keep a straight face; the suits handed out are very decent and each one is allowed Rs. 30 worth of tick for the purchase of underclothing, though I don't consider the articles sold are much cheaper than those you could buy elsewhere.

In conclusion, I would advise every one to have some money saved for board-ship. A good plan for augmenting your ship's rations is for half a dozen to club together, and buy a lot of tinned provisions before leaving Deolali; the 3-anna tins of butter and 8-anna tins of jam are worth taking. We found them very good, and 50 per cent cheaper than on board-ship; bring as much tobacco as you like, but no cigars. Keep your nob on at Deolali, and have a little money in hand at Fort Brockhurst as you get nothing till just before leaving, then £2. There is no trouble about getting a parrot on board, but each owner must get a ticket to put on his cage from his Colour-Sergeant at Deolali, price Rs. 2. Don't gamble with the sailors at Harp and Crown, but bring one of your own. "House" is no good for board-ship; it's too noisy, but it'sall right at the rest-camps.

An army character is of very little assistance in getting a billet in civilian life, at least mine was not. MAC.

Stirling.

—o—

A SUCCESSFUL MOBILISATION.

At the Stirling military depôt, the mobilisation movement has proved a success far beyond the rosiest expectations. When the order to call out the reserves was being anticipated, the official allowance for possible shortage in the number summoned was put, it is said, at about 15 per cent, whereas in reality the proportion of men who have failed to enter appearance at the regimental depôt has turned out to be just over 1 per cent. In other words, out of 582 men whom the Royal proclamation re called to the colours, there were yesterday only six who had failed to respond within the stipulated time—surely a significant testimony not only to the worth of the reserve system, but to the kind of soldier upon whom the nation has to call in case of emergency. The past ten days have undoubtedly been a time of test and trial at nearly all the regimental depôts in Scotland, and the results of the present mobilisation must be extremely gratifying to Colonel Trotter, who commands the regimental district of which Stirling is the head centre. The completeness of the response to the call to arms is only one factor in the sum of Colonel Trotter's satisfaction; the physique of the men has proved to be of the very finest, and their conduct during their brief sojourn at the depôt has been most exemplary. As to physique, the statistics show that only 25 of the total of 582 reservists have had to be rejected as medically unfit for the rigours of a campagin – giving a proportion which works out at something over 4 per cent.

The smoothness with which the civilian has been converted into the soldier has been not the least satisfactory feature of the present mobilization movement. Without doubt the British military machine is much better fitted than it was even a few years ago to bear the sudden strain which a crisis like the present places upon it. Not only organisation, but decentralisation, are carried much further than they used to be, and to this circumstance probably more than to any other is due the absence of hitch in the present measures for calling into being a certain proportion of our latent military resources. The success of the scheme, at Stirling as elsewhere, has been its simplicity. The issue of the Royal proclamation on the 7th instant carried no administrative problems in its train. Every detail had been carefully thought out beforehand. Four-fifths of the men summoned to Stirling delayed reporting themselves until the last available day or two, and yet in that day or two 400 men were registered, medically examined, clothed, and equipped without in the least seeming to disturb the ordinary routine of barrack work. Upon a reservist reporting himself at the entrance to Stirling Castle Barracks, his name, his civil employment, his rate of pay, and his domestic circumstances—that is to say, whether he were married or single, the father of a family or not—were carefully noted. Then he was passed on to the doctor for examination. If he survived this ordeal he was directed to the mobilisation stores situated in the old Palace buildings and opening off the lower barrack square. Here he again reported himself to a non-commissioned officer, who had before him the alphabetically-arranged register, in which were set down all the measurements necessary to each reservist being properly fitted with clothing, such as his height, his width round the chest and the waist, and the size of his glengarry and his shoes. Not only so, The very position of the man's name on the register sheet afforded an indication of the precise pigeon hole in which

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his clothing and kit were stored in readiness. For example, if Private John Smith's register number happened to give him fifth place on the sheet containing his name, his kit was to be found in the fifth row of the large rack which towered from floor to ceiling of the clothing store. Confusion or difficulty was practically impossible because each man's kit was made up into a neat parcel, wrapped in stout slate-grey paper. Every article of his kit was enclosed within this parcel, down to his piece of soap, his regulation three pairs of laces, and his tin of dubbin for his shoes. Each kit, it should be noted, contained two pairs of shoes—a spare pair, in addition to the pair for immediate use. Yesterday the clothing store for the sections of the reserve now called out was all but empty, but there, in another part of the store, were the racks containing the clothing and kit of Section D of the reserve, ready for instant issue should the necessity arise. Having been served out with their parcels of clothing, the reservists were next directed to a couple of barrack-rooms near by, in which the men doffed their civilian attire and donned the uniform of the old regiment. Here the men could avail themselves of a capital arrangement for disposing of their civilian clothes, for having wrapped them up in the paper which had contained their uniform, they could either have them properly docketed and stored at the depôt, or they could have them forwarded by railway parcel to their home address. If a man elected to have his clothes stored, he was supplied with a ticket, on which he wrote down an inventory of the articles so deposited. Having now got into his uniform, and disposed of his civilian clothes, the reservist made his way across the upper barrack square to the armoury department, where he was supplied with the rifle and bayonet, and the valise and straps, which with the *khaki* tunic, included in the kit already in his possession, virtually completed his equipment. In this instance, there was no fitting of individual men to be considered. Each reservist simply entered by one door and left by another, *plus* a rifle and valise; The rifles, by the way, were all brand-new Lee-Enfields, of which any infantryman might well be proud. All that now remained for the reservist to do was to report himself to the pay sergeants, whose duty it was to see to his transfer for pay purposes from the reserve to the colours, to proceed thence to the office of the Army Pay Department to arrange about the pay to which he became entitled on rejoining, and finally to cross over to the orderly-room and declare the financial arrangements he desired to be made in regard to his wife and children if he were the head of a family. The beauty of the whole arrangements was that from first to last the men never crossed each other in passing from department to department, but went on from start to finish in a regular stream.

The largest of the drafts which has yet left Stirling Castle since mobilisation was ordered was the one which took its departure by rail yesterday afternoon for Greenock, for embarkation to Dublin, where the home battalion is quartered. The detachment was 218 strong, and was made up of a splendid lot of fellows—well set up, square-shouldered, alert. They had all reported themselves at the depôt after five o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, and yet there they were moving about the barracks yesterday as if they had been stationed at "The Rock" for years. After dinner the men strolled about the barrack square at will, most of them enjoying a quiet smoke; but the sound of the "Dress for Parade" bugle a few minutes after two o'clock wrought a wondrous change. Instantly the upper barrack square was one mass of soldiers getting into their accoutrements, which had previously been arranged in rows on the ground beside their piled arms. Anon the "Fall in" sounded, and while lorries were busy loading the baggage there was much moving to and fro as rolls were being called. The baggage, it should be noted, included boxes of rifle ammunition sufficient to provide 100 rounds per man. Such is British military organisation nowadays that when the reservist is recalled to his regiment he finds awaiting him at his depôt not only his uniform and accoutrements, his rifle and bayonet, but the ammunition with which he is to take the field. As the men formed up in two companies it was evident that the severe stiffness of the ordinary barrack yard parade was being relaxed a good deal, and that the men were being allowed a certain amount of "stand-easy" latitude, which was, after all, not unbefitting in the case of soldiers about to enter upon war service abroad.

When the roll-call had been concluded, and every man had answered to his name, Colonel Trotter addressed a few words to the detachment. He desired to tell them, he said, the satisfaction it had been to him to see so excellent a turn-out of reserve men, and especially to see this the largest party he had sent away. It had not only been a satisfaction to him as commanding the troops in the regmental district, but as an old commanding officer of the 93rd, to see before him so many soldiers who had served in the ranks of both battalions. It was unnecessary for him to tell them what was expected of them when they joined the battalion for foreign service. What he wanted to do was to caution them very earnestly that their conduct there at Stirling, at Greenock, and in Dublin did more to reflect credit and honour on the regiment than almost anything they might do after they joined the battalion. He knew that a great many of them had come at great inconvenience to themselves, and that many of them had left wives and children behind them. In that connection he should like to read to them the following telegram which he had received from the Duchess of Montrose, who was always only too willing and eager to help soldiers and their families:—"Please inform all concerned that their wives and families will be looked after by the Soldiers' Families' Association." He knew that this intimation would be a source of great satisfaction to those men who had left wives and children behind them. It was an assurance upon which they might all rely, and which he hoped they would make known to their friends, the other reservists, when they got to the battalion in Dublin. He had only to say, in conclusion, that he wished them all a hearty good-bye, and that it was his earnest hope that he would see them all again very soon back, as fit and as soldierly as they were that day.

At the close of the Colonel's address, the soldiers doffed their caps and gave three ringing cheers for their depôt commander. The echo of the cheers had not died away when the pipe band of the 3rd Battalion struck up a march, and the detachment set out for the railway station. Every yard of the way from the Esplanade downwards the crowd grew thicker and thicker, the restricted width of Baker Street was no more than conveniently passable, in the heart of the town the people were to be numbered almost by thousands, and the confines of the station were all but completely blocked. At various points on the route the crowd cheered vigorously, handkerchiefs were freely waved, and altogether the send-off demonstration was of the heartiest character. The men left by special train at 3.23 amid renewed cheering, and almost in the twinkling of an eye the pipers were retracing their steps to barracks, with the depôt escorting party in their train.—*From the "Scotsman."*

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The Life of "Tommy Atkins."

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Replying to the "Morning Leader" to the suggestion of Mr. Horace Wyndham, that the life in the army is monotonous, Mr. Robert Blatchford gives the following stirring picture of soldier life:—

Test the soldier's life by comparison. To what shall we compare it, to the life of a working man? Very well. Here is a bill made out fairly by one who has tried both existences—

John Smith rises every morning to the sound of the bell or "buzzer." Tommy Atkins rises to the sound of the bugle or the drums and fifes. John goes to work in a mechanics' shop; Tommy goes to drill in the open air. John works on, with intervals for meals, from 6 A. M. to half-past 5 P. M., Tommy, unless on duty, knocks off for the day at 3 p. m., and often sooner. Tommy goes to bed at ten; John, theoretically, may stay out as late as he pleases, but then really John is too tired to use the privilege often, while Tommy can get a pass for the asking; John may work at one shop and live in one street for twenty years; Tommy may lie in a dozen different stations in his period of short service.

Take my own experience. I joined the colors at Parkhurst in June. I went on detachment to Bembridge in October, and remained till May. In June I went to Aldershot. In the following April I went to Hythe, where I stayed until July. From thence to the Dartmoor manœuvres; from thence to Newport, Monmouth, and Cardiff. The following summer in detachment to Milford Haven. The following summer to Plymouth; thence to Spike Island and Templemore. Thus I had six summers by the sea.

Monotony? We had cricket matches, we had rifle contests, we had bathing, boating, dancing, amateur theatricals, football, gymnastics, and athletic sports. And as to the field days and route-marching; I did not find them "far from pleasant." They were fatiguing of course; but the field days seemed to me of great interest, and were, as spectacles, worth some trouble; and as for the marches—why, on a clear winter's day, with clean hard road, the band and drums in good fettle, and the regiment pleased with itself, a route march was a delightful holiday trip.

We were young then, and stepped along lustily. The rifle was no burden: I loved the dear old thing, and with a pipe and a chatty comrade was happy on the open road. Indeed, I often look back wistfully to those days. I would give the cost of a week at Sandown for one brisk march with the old "Ramchunders" behind the old "Punch and Judy band," as we called the drums.

No. Soldier life at home is not monotonous. It is full of change and fun, and movement and color; and what character there is in the ranks; and what zest and go there is in a well-drilled, well-managed regiment. Dull? I have found life as dull as a mill horse round: but it was when I was in a workshop, not when I was spending some of the brightest years of my life in the company of some of the kindest, frankest, and funniest fellows it has been my good luck to meet.

If you say the soldier is poorly paid, is not well fed, is shabbily treated after doing good service, no one can deny the charges; but monotonous? A dull round? Did you ever go to a sergeants' ball? Or win the gold rifles and crown? Or bowl in a garrison cricket match? Or watch the drummer boys swagger through a town? Or listen to the band on a mess night in the summer? Or laugh till your ribs cracked over a wild story told after lights-out by a born narrator, whose glorious gift was unspoiled by education and the conventions of the School. Or did you ever hear the brigaded bands play "the troop," or watch a Highland regiment advance in line, or see a battery of Royal Horse dash out of a covering squadron of Lancers, unlimber, fire three rounds, and vanish in a cloud of smoke and sand? And are not the British Army Officers the handsomest and best-groomed men in the world? And is not scarlet cloth nicer than greasy fustian? And then the shrill, sweet fife, and the throbbing drum that seems to beat in the very core of one's heart—do they count for nothing? And a rifle? It is a thing to polish and groom, a thing to nurse and hug, a thing to be proud of and fond of. Monotonous! Did I dream it all—the bull's-eye flag, the scent of powder, the crashing music, the laughing faces, the rousing songs; the cleanness, the smartness, the stately ring of manhood, the zest and savour of bravery and young life? Or did I dream that long dark drudgery in the smoky workshop in the smoky northern town?

———:o:———

An Exception.

—o—

It wa'snt round the camp fire
As the shades of night were falling,
Nor was there any camp fire there
To give a ruddy glow,
He did'nt sing a song of love
Fond memories recalling,
Nor about an old mud cabin
And the days of long ago.
There was'nt even half a breeze
To hanker round a sighing,
Nor was there any pale moon
Lending splendour to the scene,
No hearts were filled with longing,
Not a blooming "swad" was crying
As he sang "What Ho! She bumps"
In the "Jocks" Canteen.

The hero of my little lay,
He didn't lie a dreaming,
Pretty dreams of "blighty"
In his lonely little bed,
Not a solitary moonbeam
Got a chance to come in beaming,
And do the usual bo-peep
Round the soldier singer's head,
He didn't even think about
The Yule log brightly burning,
He didn't even muster up
An old familiar scene,
No, he thought of an excuse;
To make the C. O. in the morning,
For creating a disturbance
In the "Jocks" Canteen.

At daybreak the next morning,
Without the slightset warning,
They didn't shoot the singer,
So there was no churchyard scene;
Everybody was astonished,
When he only got admonished,
For doing soldier singer
In the "Jocks" Canteen.

CAEN MOR.

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1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

—o—

INSPECTION BY LORD ROBERTS.

Yesterday morning, at Richmond Barracks, Field-Marshal the Right Hon. Lord Roberts, V.C., K.P., accompanied by Colonel Kelly, Deputy-Adjutant-General, and other members of the Headquarter and Personal Staff, together with Major-General Gosset, C.B., commanding Dublin District; Colonel Farrant, Chief Staff Officer, and Lieutenant Gosset, A.D.C., inspected the 1st Battalion, Argyll and Southerland Highlanders, under orders for South Africa, to form part of the Army Corps under General Sir Redvers Buller, V.C. A large number of the friends of the Highlanders, including nearly all of the officers of the King's Own Scottish Borderers, South Wales' Borderers, and a bevy of the fair sex were present at the farewell parade in Dublin of the old 91st. The battalion, eight strong companies, the total strength being 1,082 non-commissioned officers, rank and file, with 29 officers, presented in their khaki service dress a fine appearance—indeed, it is a question if the barrack square of Richmond Barracks ever had paraded on it a battalion of equal strength or of finer physique. In the ranks of the old 91st were no fewer than 548 men —seasoned men, not boys—many of them wearing the medals awarded for previous campaigns. The men belonging to the Mounted Infantry were in the ranks, and could be distinguished from their comrades by the wearing of putties. During the inspection by the Commander of the Forces the band and pipers of the battalion played inspiriting airs, and the hero of Candahar seemed more than pleased with the appearance of all ranks. A better equipped battalion for active service, Irish, English, or Scotch, has never left Dublin. Close column having been formed on No. 5 Company,

Lord Roberts then said—Lieutenant-Colonel Goff, officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the 1st Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, I thought I should like to inspect you before you left Dublin, and I am glad I have been able to do so, for it has given me great pleasure to see the battalion so fit and ready in all respects for active service. The manner in which the Reservists of the regiment have responded to the call of duty is eminently satisfactory, and with the 548 old soldiers who have joined your ranks the battalion will embark at Queenstown over 1,100 strong. Many fine battalions have already gone to the seat of war, and others are preparing to start, but I am confident there is not one that will do better service, or be a greater credit to her Majesty's army than the 1st Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. The first Highland regiment, with which I was associated on service, was the 93rd, now your 2nd Battalion. It came to India during the Mutiny, and quite captivated me by the splendid courage officers and men displayed at the storming of the Sikandarabagh in November 1857; it was a sight I shall never forget, the way in which they raced with the Sikhs to see who should be the first to reach the deadly breach. South Africa is no new field to the Regiment. It is very nearly a century ago since the 93rd Highlanders sailed from Cork with the force under the command of Major-General Sir David Baird, to take possession of the Cape of Good Hope. On three subsequent occasions your own battalion did good service in South Africa, in campaigns which, however important they may have appeared at the time, dwindle into insignificance in comparison with the great event in which you are now about to take part —*viz.*, the establishment of British supremacy throughout that portion of the country where the suzerainty of the Crown has been denied, and the blood of so many English, Irish, and Scotch soldiers has already been spent. Everyone throughout the length and breadth of this vast Empire watches eagerly for news from South Africa. All hearts have been stirred by the accounts of the splendid manner in which the King's Royal Rifles, the Royal Irish Fusiliers, and the Royal Dublin Fusiliers behaved at the battle fought last Friday near Dundee, where my gallant friend Lieutenant-General Sir William Symons received his dangerous (not mortal, I sincerely trust) wound. I am glad to see Colonel Clemens and some of the South Wales Borderers here, for that was the regiment in which General Symons rose, and it was as a Major in the battalion stationed in the Madras Presidency seventeen years ago I was attracted by his soldierly bearing. A day or two later we heard of the successful fight under another friend and comrade, Lieutenant-General Sir George White, near Elandslaagte, where the old 92nd Foot, a regiment I know so well, and to which I am so deeply indebted, showed the enemy how Highland soldiers can fight. I wish you one and all, officers, non-commissioned officers, and men, God-speed, and I pray that every success may attend you. As the 91st Foot you had a grand record, and as the 1st Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders I know that you will maintain your glorious reputation, and do all that soldiers can do to uphold the honour and dignity of the country to which we are all so proud of belonging.

This (Thursday) afternoon the baggage party of the Highlanders leave Kingsbridge at 5-30 o'clock, and to-morrow in two special trains the 91st leave the same station at 6-15 and 7 A. M. for Queenstown, *en route* for South Africa, carrying with them the best wishes of the loyal population of the capital of Dublin.

From the "Irish Times."

———— :o: ————

O Fashion!

—o—

Yon steal oor games an' change their names,
An' show nae hesitation,
To sair misca' oor Hielan Chiefs,
Regairdless o' their station.
You've modernised tae Hockey,
Oor Heilan game o' chinty,
The Heilan name Mc.———
Converted tae "McGinty,"
You've ae redeeming p'int I'll own.
T'assist you on your journey,
You've chosen as interpreter
The inimitable "Barney."

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be acting Drummer—No. 5844, Private J. Burns.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporal.—No. 5908, Private M. Mackenzie while attending gymnastic class. No. 3698, Private F. Trant, "G" Company, and No. 6174, Private J. Loudon, "F" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. per diem :—

"*F*" *Company*,

No. 3692, Private J. Nolan.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 4914, Private J. Kerr.

Granted 1d. per diem :—

"*E*" *Company.*

No. 5704, " Private R. Given.

"*F.*" *Company.*

No. 5505, Private J. Burns.

"*G*" *Company.*

No. 5828, Pte. D. Sinclair. | No. 5834, Pte. J. McMillan.

"H" *Company.*

No. 6302, Lce.-Corporal J. Sutherland.

MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

CASUALS.

Best Shots of Party.				£	s.	d.
No. 7027, Pte. J. Ross	...	...	...	0	6	0
„ 5912, „ T. McKillop	...	...	...	0	5	3
„ 4295, „ A. Keeble	...	...	...	0	3	9

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service :—

No. 5491, Sergeant E. J. Wallace, Unattached List.
„ 3133, „ W. D. Murdoch, „
„ 4314, Drummer W. Hughes.

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

Granted Second Class Certificates, dated 20th September 1899.

No. 5163,	Lance-Corporal J. Allan,	"D"	Company.
„ 5789,	Private C. Hearn,	"B"	„
„ 5120,	„ J. Moffat,	"B"	„
„ 5198,	„ W. Cole,	"D"	„
„ 5182,	„ T. Morrison,	"B"	„
„ 4568,	„ A. McGregor,	"D"	„

TRANSFERS.

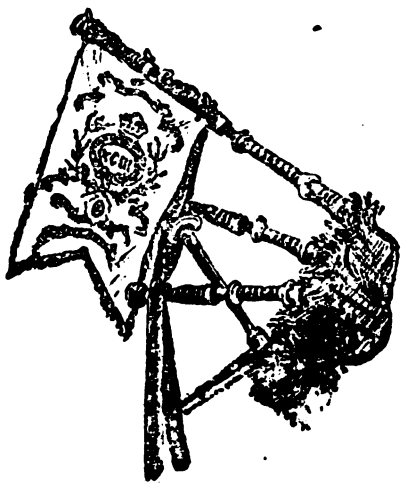
From 11th Hussars.—Private M. Warren, and posted to "F" Company.

VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTORS.

No. 3005, Sergeant A. Macdonald, Unattached List, to be 1st class Instructor of Volunteers.

BIRTH.

LOCKIE.—At Ranikhet, on the 20th October 1899, the wife of Sergeant A. Lockie of a son—Andrew Cameron.



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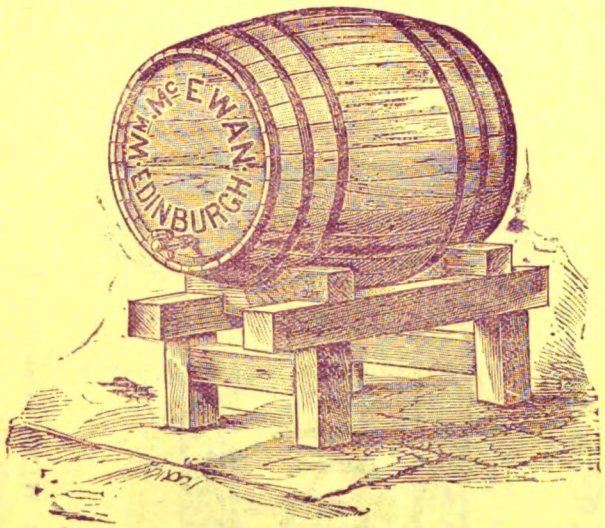
McEWAN'S.

The Soldier's Beer.

IN WOOD

Direct from the SHIP to the MESS.

IN HOGSHEADS.



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Dec 1899

The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 8—Vol. V. BAREILLY,—DECEMBER 1899. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

A COUPLE of field days marked the period immediately anterior to the regiment's departure for the plains. In the second the combined strength of Ranikhet (representing about twelve companies) was pitted against the half battalion defending Chaubattia, and it may be remarked that the four companies were somewhat unequal to the task imposed upon them. Consequently the Sergeants' Mess fell into the hands of the Standing Camp Contingent, who had executed an excellent flank movement, whilst another party of the enemy were only kept out of the canteen by the discreet absence of the Canteen Sergeant and his staff at a critical moment.

The date of departure for the plains had to be twice altered, although almost all preparations (regimentally) were completed for moving on the 31st October, the date first *definitely* fixed for the regiment's departure from what was rapidly becoming Chilly Chaubattia. At first the postponement was to the 4th November, but finally it became the 8th, and even then until almost the hour of actual moving, there was the dread lest there should be a further delay in migrating to a somewhat milder climate. The morning of the 8th, however, saw the regiment safely on its way to Bamshoan, and so all fears were allayed.

Evidently the delays had been caused by transport considerations, the Government carriage provided being barely sufficient to carry what was immediately required. It had been largely supplemented locally, so the lot of the baggage guard was, as may be imagined, not a happy one.

* * * * *

The march down was quite uneventful, and was in five stages as in going up. The last camp, Ranibagh, was reached on the 12th, and from there all the heavy baggage was sent on to Kathgodam and loaded in the train overnight.

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The following day head-quarters were in Bareilly by midday, and had made fair progress in the process of settling down before "tattoo" had sounded that night.

The right wing's advance party, fresh from their labours of tent-pitching, did the lion's share of fatigue work in attending to the baggage at Bareilly Railway Station, thus relieving head-quarters of perhaps the least pleasant part of a change of quarters.

* * * * *

The day following head-quarters' departure for the plains some hundred men who had not left Chaubattia, moved to Ranikhet to form the winter section, which remains for duty there during the ensuing cold weather. Captain Darroch remains in charge of the detachment; he will also be Station Staff Officer and Cantonment Magistrate, and will no doubt perform many other little duties which the exigencies of the service may from time to time require, and which may help to enliven what might otherwise prove a dreary winter in the hills.

* * * * *

The battalion has not had the pleasure of being in Permanent Camp (barring when head-quarters were in Dalhousie, which doesn't count) since Umballa 1893-94, just prior to the march to Mian Mir in January of the last-mentioned year. There cannot now be a large number with the battalion who remember that winter, as many men have joined since the "Balaclava" draft, and so the present camp life will be a pleasant novelty to a large majority. Comparing the camp here with the one of five years ago at Umballa, it cannot but be admitted that we live in a progressive age. The present canvas home is a most excellently arranged and pitched camp and approaches as near perfection as it is possible probably for a camp to do. The battalion at the present time is unfortunately not numerically strong; it is some eighty under strength and the two detachments away at Ranikhet and Shahjahanpur still further reduce the numbers available at head-quarters.

Still the battalion is in a remarkably fit condition, probably fitter than ever it was before in India, for there are only some dozen men under medical treatment out of a total strength of seven hundred, a number that is hardly likely to increase much under the stimulus of a health-giving drill season.

* * * * *

Before leaving for the plains 2nd Lieutenant Hon. A. C. Murray, who has been attached to us for the last twelve months or so, left to join the 12th Bengal (Khelat-i-Ghilzai) Infantry, who were at Barreilly last winter with us and are now at Alipur. There is no sensible decrease in the number of unattached list officers with us however, several more having joined lately to undergo their twelve months' training with a British Regiment before being posted to the staff corps.

* * * * *

The East Lancashire Regiment in two parties as last year followed head-quarters along the road from Ranikhet to Kathgodam and arrived at Bareilly, respectively, on the 14th and 15th ultimos. The 59th are much stronger than ourselves, having without the loss of time-expired details, recently received a draft from home, and have a proportionately larger display of canvas pitched upon the same ground as last winter. It is on the *tapis* that they move to Jullundur some time in January next, and that their camp will then be occupied for a month or so by the Border Regiment, who move out of their present barracks to occupy it. The absolute necessity for this eviction does not seem very apparent, though the idea we believe is to thoroughly air the bungalows and lines.

* * * * *

There have been one or two field days since the battalion arrived at Bareilly, but not any worthy of special notice. There have also been a few brigade drills, and the colours have been carried once. Otherwise there has been little to disturb the even tenor of the usual weekly schedule (not scale any longer please) of parades.

* * * * *

The band are going to have a pretty busy time of it apparently during the ensuing winter.

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So far they have a programme to get through every afternoon or evening of the week except Thursdays and Sundays, whilst there is practice for the massed bands of the brigade on Tuesdays and Fridays, the days, by the way, usually chosen for brigade drill. On such occasion the bands fall out for practice whilst their respective battalions deploy and mass and deploy again.

* * * * *

Whilst on the subject of bands it may be mentioned that Bareilly at the present time quite revels in them, and our proximity to the Club affords quite a surfeit of promenade concerts to those of the rank and file who appreciate sweet melody. On Monday evenings the band of one of the four regiments in garrison alternately discourses a dance programme there. On Tuesdays the East Lancashire's band obliges, whilst almost before they have finished the "Queen," our own musicians commence and perform for an hour in the centre of our lines at what is usually alluded to as "Coffee Shop."

The dusky musicians of the 5th Bengal Light Infantry take their turn on Wednesdays, whilst the Border Regiment's band appears on Fridays. A Friday evening has, not inappropriately perhaps, been christened "Fair Night." Certainly with a band at each end of camp (our band at our Mess and the East Lancashires at theirs), the pipers tuning up somewhere about the centre, and a few choruses and miscellaneous noises thrown in, the name is not wholly undeserved.

After this a Saturday with only our own band at the club is quite a tame affair, but it prepares the way for the solemnity of the Sabbath when "Church call" played for some ten minutes or so before Church parade is the only music discoursed outside the sacred edifice itself.

* * * * *

Quarter master and Honorary Captain Sinclair Forbes, who left us during the last year of our stay in Mian Mir to retire on pension, has again been called to active employment. He is at present acting as Commissariat Officer at Inverness.

As soon as possible after the settling down process had been completed the Commanding Officer, who was accompanied by the Adjutant and the Quartermaster, paid his first visit to the Shahjahanpur Wing.

* * * * *

Last month we published two most interesting extracts from home papers relating to the mobilisation and despatch of our first battalion to South Africa. Curiously at the same time we were delighted to be able to publish a somewhat belated, though none the less interesting, account of the homeward journeying of a one-time versatile and most popular contributor to these pages. Amongst the five hundred and forty-eight reservists, who have rejoined the colours and who are now serving in the ranks of the first battalion at the Cape must be a large percentage of men who have done a large part of their soldiering in the Ninety-third, including no doubt our own above-mentioned popular contributor with probably yet another member of the "Thin Yin's" Editorial Staff, and many others no doubt, who will long be remembered in this battalion by reason of their soldier-like qualities or for their prowess in the field of sport. To say that every item of news from the Transvaal containing any illusion to the Ninety-first is eagerly snatched at expresses at the present time most inadequately the feelings of the Ninety-third for their linked battalion. That we should not ourselves have been selected to form part of the Indian contingent for service in Natal is regrettable, but from the re-action of our own disappointment comes a feeling of pride and interest in the thought that we are not totally unrepresented, and that the honours and distinctions awaiting the first battalion in that quarter of the British dominions in which they have already so many times distinguished themselves will not be unreflected upon ourselves.

Good luck to you Ninety-first! May victory ever be where your Sutherland tartan waves!

* * * * *

The powers that be seem to be most anxious that men should now have every opportunity of

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availing themselves of the advantages of the new messing allowance. The boon which at one time was to be at once accepted or irrevocably refused is now open to the acceptance of every one at any time.

* * * * *

Lieutenant H. H. G. Hyslop has been granted twelve months' leave out of India on Medical Certificate.

* * * * *

2nd-Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean has joined from home and has been posted to "F" Company. "Let 'em all come!" though with "A. H.," "C. A. H." and "A. J. H." it's just the least bit confusing.

* * * * *

The right wing rejoined head-quarters here on the last of the month, which happened also to be St. Andrew's Day; such a combination of events not unnaturally afforded excellent excuses for the little shortcomings that were compelled to be officially investigated within the next few days or so.

* * * * *

A thoughtful home correspondent writes us: "The 14th annual gathering of the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders' Association was held on Balaclava Day at the Trade Hall, Glassford Street, Glasgow. Colonel P. D. Trotter occupied the chair, being supported by Captain A. H. Middleton, Honorary President of the Association, Captain H. G. Burgoyne, Captain A. F. Mackenzie and Campbell of Kilberry.

After an excellent dinner, the roll was called by Sergeant E. McKinlay, and amongst the veterans present four had five medals, and two had the French War medal for the Crimea, *viz.*, Color-Sergeant Wm. McKenzie and Private Cobb. Private Cobb was the oldest soldier present, he having enlisted in 1841; Color Sergeant McKenzie and Private Fulton being next, 1847, and Sergeant Mitchell 1849. There were twelve Crimean men present.

After toasting Her Most Gracious Majesty in true Highland form, Colonel Trotter gave an excellent address, alluding to the great loss the Association had sustained through the death of Colonel A. C. Nightingale, the reference of which brought tears to the eyes of the men who had served with the late Colonel in many a hard-fought field.

About ten o'clock dancing commenced and was kept up to an early hour when a most enjoyable and thoroughly successful gathering came to a close."

* * * * *

Most appreciated, and deservedly so, amongst the several institutes of the Bareilly garrison is the comparatively recently instituted Soldiers' Home. The Bareilly home is modelled as far as possible upon the lines of the several similar institutions in the large garrison towns at home, and its crowded rooms testify to its popularity as a place of recreation and to the great need of such institutions throughout the length and breadth of British India. Miss Schofield, the estimable and kindly lady who superintends the institution and who has devoted many years of her life to the soldiers' benefit, remembering as she does the Ninety-third in Cork, arranges from time to time for meetings on various subjects in the home. The night of Thursday, 30th ultimo, was "Transvaal Night," when, owing to Miss Schofield's indisposition, Major Ovens of the Border Regiment gave a very interesting and instructive discourse on the present war. Afterwards Miss Schofield herself made an appeal on behalf of the Widows and Orphans' Fund and arranged for collections throughout the various corps comprising the garrison for this deserving object. The appeal, it is needless to say, has been liberally responded to.

* * * * *

Last year, it may be remembered, a statement of the Tochi Memorial Fund was published in the *Thin Red Line*. It showed that iron crosses were being erected over some thirty-five graves at various permanent posts in the Tochi Valley and at other places on the line of communication with the additional information that it was also

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intended to erect with any surplus funds a memorial in the West Church at Stirling, where the relatives and friends of those who had surrendered their lives so patiently and uncomplainingly in that deadly valley might learn that patient heroism was not without its reward and lived in the memory of others—their more fortunate comrades.

The fund has increased, the graves of the dead have, wherever practicable, been permanently marked, and the Auld Grey Friars' Kirk at Stirling has been enriched by yet another memorial. Owing no doubt to some oversight, no mention of the memorial's unveiling or even of its existence has yet been made by any of the local press so we are unable to republish any account of what must have been an interesting and impressive ceremony.

The memorial has been erected however—the unostentatious record of a patient sacrifice—and those who may ever be fortunate enough to have the opportunity of visiting Stirling should not miss entering the Auld Kirk of Grey Friars and seeing the handsome brass tablet erected therein.

—:o:—

Home News.

—o—

From our own correspondent.

When I left India over three months ago, I had the very fullest intention of writing to tell you, Mr. Editor, of what I saw in this country, but that intention is gone with many another to assist in paving a place which apparently uses up a good deal of pavement.

However, I will begin at the beginning of my leave and say that I left Bombay on the 15th July in the P. and O. Steamer Peninsular, where I had as fellow-passengers Major Shaw, 1st Punjab Cavalry, who was with us in the Tochi, and Captain Murray, 3rd Punjab Cavalry, who was also met in those parts. Colonel Sherston made his last voyage home in the same ship and must have hurried back to India very soon after to join the Indian Contingent for Natal, where he was unfortunately killed, and Major Gore, now commanding 5th Dragoon Guards in Natal and last year acting Military Secretary to the Lieutenant-General Commanding in Bengal, was also a passenger. We had pretty rough weather as far as Aden, but after that there was not much to complain about, and we got to Marseilles a day before our time and so I arrived in London on the evening of the 31st July, which was pretty good going.

London was very empty, and I saw very few people. Captain Malcolm arrived in London a few days after I did, and I went to see him. He was looking very ill indeed, and told me his doctor said he would not pass him as fit to serve in England for twelve months, and wouldn't hear of his going abroad again. Since then he has been applying to go out to the Cape with the 1st Battalion, so I hope his doctor was mistaken. I also saw Lieutenant Newall on the point of returning to Egypt. He was looking very well though he had been slightly wounded not long before, and was very enthusiastic over the pleasures of service in the Soudan.

I did not stay in London much longer than I could help, and then came north here to Inverness, where I have been staying off and on ever since. I have done very little shooting as I have been laid up twice with a bad knee since I got home, and have to be very careful in consequence. I think, however, it is now all right again. I didn't go to the games at the Northern Meeting as the weather was bad, but I was at both balls, where I saw Captain McKerrell, Captain Moulton-Barrett and Lieutenant Tweedie, also Mr. Angus Campbell who was attached to us at Meean Meer. There were also lots of old friends of the 78th from Fort George.

I went to Stirling on the 11th October, where I found everybody very busy over the calling out of the reserves, except Captain McNeill, who is shooting in America. I saw a good many of our reserve men here, and more later in Dublin, but there must have been many in Dublin I didn't see. The reserves turned out very well indeed, and all ours were accounted for, the three or four who did not appear in time being known to be at sea. They also very nearly all passed the doctor's inspection. They were sent off from Stirling to Dublin every afternoon except Sunday, completely clothed and equipped except for their helmets and rifles, which were issued to them in Dublin.

On the 13th October, I was at the Scotch Regimental Dinner, which was held at the Golden Lion Hotel in Stirling. The officers now serving were Colonel Trotter Commanding the Regimental District; 1st Battalion, Major Urmston, Captains Henderson and Denholm and Lieutenant Watson; 2nd Battalion, Captains Mackenzie, Moulton-Barrett and Sutherland, Lieutenants Tweedie and Akers-Douglas. Retired

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Officers; 1st Battalion, Colonel Chater, Captain Fowler; 2nd Battalion, Mr. Campbell of Kilberry, Major MacDougall, Captain Walker, Captain Macrae. There were also present about half a dozen Militia Officers whom I did not know. There was very little speechifying after dinner. We drank the health of the Queen, and of the Princess Louise, and also of the 1st Battalion under orders for active service, for which Colonel Chater responded.

On the 23rd October, I started off for Dublin to see the 1st Battalion before they sailed. I hadn't told any of them I was coming over, and did not know what was going on, but I drove up to barracks very soon after I landed, and was just in time to see them parade for inspection by Lord Roberts. It was a very fine sight. There were over 1,100 men on parade, of whom more than half were reservists. The day was dull and the light bad, and the battalion being in column, the rear companies are only just visible in the only photo I saw of the parade, while the leading company, Captain Richardson's, was rather far from the camera, which was in a window in barracks. Lord Roberts rode round the ranks and then made a very effective little speech to the regiment, of which unfortunately I have no copy. I will send it you if I can procure a paper with it in. The parade was in what we should call "field service order." I noticed some of the men carried entrenching tools slung in a way I have not seen before, and the regimental transpost drivers wore khaki breeches and putties. The officers were dressed much as in India, except that they carried rolled great-coats slung over the shoulder and not attached to the Sam Browne belt. They will on landing wear sporrans the same as the men, which have all had the tassels removed, and it is curious what a difference it makes in the appearance of the men, the taking off the six white tassels. Colonel Hannay, who has just been appointed officiating A. A. G. at Portsmouth, had come over to see the regiment, and Colonel and Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh were also looking on. After the parade was dismissed, the officers were photographed with Lord Roberts, General Gossett and Colonel Hannay.

One company under Captain Irvine left Dublin at 5 o'clock the next morning, 26th, to load the heavy baggage, and the remainder of the Battalion left in two parties early on the morning of the 27th, but I did not wait to see them leave Dublin. They sailed from Queenstown on the same day with a strength of 29 officers and 981 non-commissioned officers and men. Whether Major Robinson arrived in time to go with them I haven't yet heard, but nobody knew where he was when I left barracks about 4 P. M. on the 26th, though they had been expecting him for several days. Lieutenant Graham and 2nd Lieutenant Akers-Douglas have been attached for duty and the latter sailed with the head-quarters. Lieutenant Graham has been left behind with about 90 men for whom there was no room on the transport, but was to go now a week later on the "Servia" Major Urmston, Lieutenant H. C. Macdonald and three Militia Officers remain in Dublin with the men not going to the Cape, whose numbers are considerably diminished by a party of 150 under Lieutenant Watson having been sent to Gibraltar with an equal number from the Black Watch to be attached to the 2nd Cameron Highlanders, who had to be sent out there very much under strength.

———:o:———

Tommy Knows.

—o—

"Oh! Tommy, you're a good 'un heart and hand,"
Tommy winks his eye and listens to the song;
"You're a credit, lad, to all your native land,"
Smilingly Tom listens to the song;
He'd heard it oft before, that stirring old refrain,
He'd heard it sung with gusto when old Fuzzy broke his chain,
Says Tom "I'll bet a dollar there's something wrong again,
Or they wouldn't sing that old war song."

"In time of war it's Tommy to the front,"
Tommy listens to the grand old song;
"We sit at home while Tommy bears the brunt,"
Says Tommy "its a true old song;"
He'd heard it sung with fervour when he sailed for Ashanti,
For they always start to sing it when there's trouble o'er the sea,
Tom knows that someone's dared with Bull and Co. to disagree,
When they warble out the old war song.

"Oh! Tommy dear, we'll back you 'gainst the world,"
Tommy listens to the old war song;
"Wherever Britain's flag it is unfurl'd,"
Say's Tommy "'um, the same old song";
He'd heard them sing it lustily not many years ago,
When the wild Afridi dared to choose us for a foe,
Says Tom "I'll bet there's someone been insulting Bull and Co.,
Or they wouldn't sing that old war song."

Dear Tommy, there's a monster called Oom Paul,
Says Tommy "that's the chorus o' the song,"
And lately he's been talking rather tall,
Says Tommy "that's an old, old song,"
"Dear Tommy, he's been cheeky, and insulted you and we,
Brave Tommy shall we stand it, No, such things can never be,"
Tommy does a wink sagacious and sails across the sea,
To the music of the same old song,

CAEN MOR.

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Notes of the Right Wing at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

Shahjahanpur has at last been left to the tender mercies of a mere detachment and the Right Wing know it no longer. A precursory movement occurred on the 7th November, when "C" Company received twenty-four hours' notice in which to prepare for a move to Bareilly, there to pitch and arrange the camp for the regiment's arrival from Chaubattia. "C" Company moved the next day by the 3 P.M. train, and so the wing was reduced by one company or some eighty odd rifles in a few short hours. Headquarters arrived at Bareilly from the hills on the 13th ultimo, and found the camp there, owing to the almost herculean efforts of our advance party, ready for their reception and nearly complete for the full battalion. "C" Company must have worked all they knew, for they only had five short days, in which time they drew from the fort and pitched in a most thorough and complete manner at a place some two miles away over one hundred and twenty E. P. and some dozen or more smaller tents.

At Shahjahanpur matters remained as usual for a few more days, until on the 22nd the wing received orders to prepare to march to Bareilly on the 27th. Previous to this there had been a couple of inspections; the Inspector of Gymnasia came on the 6th and had "C" Company at physical drill and the remainder of the wing at some other things, with all of which he appeared quite satisfied.

On the 21st the Commanding Officer had visited the wing for the first time when there was an inspection of barracks and all the Institutes. This ordeal was successfully passed, Colonel Campbell returning to Bareilly the same evening. The next day the marching orders were received, and the few remaining days were devoted to preparing for the road with one parade for "route marching."

The month being more or less an unsettled one, on account of the expected move to Bareilly, there were few sporting events. Some hockey matches were played and a little football, but otherwise there has been nothing of much interest to notice.

From the first the normal scale of parade had been resumed, and the usual winter routine of duties commenced.

Shikaris have certainly been fairly busy on the many *jheels* which abound in the vicinity of Shahjahanpur, whilst there have also been expeditions further afield in quest of somewhat larger game. The officers have usually managed to put in a couple of days a week shooting, and have mostly been rewarded with excellent bags; more modest sportsmen too have seldom been unsuccessful, with the result that duck and other similar game has largely supplemented the usul *menu* at the Sergeants' Mess and married quarters. Major Stanley Paterson had a few days in the jungles which overspread the northern part of the Shahjahanpur District, whilst our own representative was more recently not unsuccessful amongst the "*mugger*" that infest the rivers in this part of India. He was lucky enough to land two fairly decent specimens of the sharp-nosed species of alligator out of three he hit, whilst with the assistance of other noted sportsmen, a third (this a flat-nosed specimen or crocodile, locally much respected and known as *narker*) was obtained after the fifth shot administered as a drench at point blank range. Our *shikaris* are certainly the greatest losers by the move to Bareilly, and amongst them, no doubt, will be the most regrets.

The march to Bareilly, although almost too short, was a most pleasant one. *Reveillé* was at half-past five each morning, and as soon afterwards as possible the baggage was away. Seven-thirty had been arranged as the time for marching, but usually everything was ready long before this hour, and so the wing was on the road somewhat earlier on more than one occasion, and comfortably settled down in the next camp with an excellent appetite for dinner in plenty of time for the midday meal.

The camps were at Tilhar, Fatehganj and Fureedpur, (the usual route book ones) and the baggage guard in accordance with regimental custom had always everything ready for the wing long before its arrival, no time being thus lost in settling down. Most of the officers usually spent the afternoons shikarring, and a few others who had guns did likewise, but although hares and partridges were fairly plentiful in the vicinity of the two last camps and several buck were seen, no large bags were made. Tattoo was of course somewhat earlier than in barracks, there being little inclination to late hours. At Fatehganj the A. T. A. had a bonfire concert which was well patronised, the tea being a free issue; the singers (who in addition received cigars for their trouble) did well, encores were frequent and readily granted, and altogether all seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly which must have been very gratifying to the promoters of the concert. At the next camp the teetotalers had an impromptu sing-song, but there was no *lakri* and no cheering blaze, probably because the worthy president of the association was guarding his weary comrades from danger—for such are the exigencies of the service.

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All the British bands of the garrison met the wing some five miles out of Bareilly and the latter part of the last stage was quite a triumphal progress, there probably being more musical instruments than rifles entering cantonments. The camp was reached about noon, and here the head-quarter companies had made all preparations for the wing's arrival and well-being, each company of the right-half being entertained by its sister company of the left. "D" Company were particularly fortunate, "H" having an excellent meal spread for their linked company, under the shelter of some spare tents. "A" and "B" were also looked after by their sister companies of the "left-half," but the hospitality, none the less genuine, had to be partaken *al fresco*. The reunion took place on "St. Andrew's Day," and it may be unnecessary perhaps to add that the night dedicated to Scotland's patron saint was not unsuitably celebrated by the members of both wings after a separation of so many months.

* * * * *

On the 22nd of the month some twenty men, designated the Thistle Dance Club, had given a capitally managed dance in the Shahjahanpur Town Hall. A considerable number of invitations were sent out, but were not responded to as readily as might have been expected, with the result that there was somewhat an undue preponderance of the sterner sex. The few ladies, however, who did grace the hall by their presence naturally had very full programmes, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the absentees were certainly themselves the losers. The executive must certainly be congratulated upon the excellence of all their arrangements, and the dance deserved to be a much greater success than it actually was. A detachment of our band from Bareilly was in attendance, and dancing was kept up till after three the following morning. The same Club, it is believed, intend giving another dance after the New Year when it is intended to make the invitations outside the regiment somewhat more exclusive.

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Stirling News.

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The Editor "THIN RED LINE."

Those who regard duty at the depôt as a slope will, I think, considerably alter their views should they be in that spot during the process of mobilisation. On Saturday, 7th of October, late in the afternoon, a telegram was received from head-quarters—"Mobilise." This one word necessitated the immediate issue of posters all through the district on which were printed the names of the Regiments for mobilisation, and the notice that A. and B. Sections of the Army Reserve were to come up. The 17th was the last day of mobilisation. By Monday morning every place of importance in the 91st district and even places in the wilds of Argyllshire and Buteshire had their notices up, and at the Castle all preliminary arrangements for the reception of reservists were pushed forward. A and B sections comprised roughly 580 men, and they had all to be clothed, paid, &c., at the Castle and sent over to the 1st Battalion in Dublin as fast as parties could be made up. Sunday and Monday were easy days, as hardly any of the reservists turned up. Doubtless, they had many of their affairs to settle, but at the end of the week there was a tremendous rush, and we soon saw that if any reservists did not intend answering the summons they would not be Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders at all events.

It was pleasant seeing so many old friends almost without exception well dressed, and without any exception as keen as mustard to get to the front. The first business was to pass the doctor, and very few failed in this ordeal; their arms, equipment and clothing had to be issued. This was principally the Quarter Master's Department, and wonderfully well and quickly was this clothing of the reservists completed. Then pay office, where the reservists each received back pay from 1st of April, about 30 shillings and pay for the day at the Castle. Married reservists then signed their special forms giving the address of their wives, members of family and how much they were willing to allot to their families while away. At 12 noon each day the list for that day closed, and all men who had been paid and clothed paraded at 3 P.M. and proceeded to Greenock, where they embarked for Dublin. On the last two days of the mobilisation special train conveyed the parties, numbering over 200 each day, to Greenock.

To show how expeditiously and smoothly everything worked I may state that no reservist slept more than one night at the Castle!

In addition to the reservists we sent 40 of the duty men of the depôt to Dublin during the early part of the week. Their departure was the cause of a scene of great enthusiasm in Stirling; the streets were packed with people, come to bid goodbye to the men they had known so well in Stirling. Every day in fact that troops were despatched the whole town turned out to give them a good send-off.

The place of the duty men was taken by young soldiers sent from Dublin. They were under the age for foreign service. Hardly had they settled themselves here when a wire came to

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detail 50 of them for garrison duty in Gibraltar! So in 24 hours a party of 50 proceeded with Lieutenant Tweedie to Southampton.

There they were met by a party of another 100 from Dublin under Lieutenant Watson. Lieutenant Tweedie handed his 50 over to Lieutenant Watson, who proceeded with the party to Gibraltar. They are attached to the Cameron Highlanders, and expect to remain about six months.

To return, however, to the mobilisation. Honestly considering that such a thing as mobilising reserves occurs, say, once, during a lifetime, everything went off without a hitch.

Every difficulty seems to have been foreseen and provided for, the reservists were comfortably bedded down in well warmed rooms and rations, etc., appeared to the tick of the clock.

The general behaviour of the reserves was most excellent,—very little drunkenness, and no absence or breaking out of barracks. Quite three-fourths of the total were 93rd men, and most of them would be known to at least half of the 93rd still serving.

Out of a total of 581 called up 580 presented themselves, or were otherwise accounted for. Truly a record for any regiment to be proud of.

Each reservist was asked what wages he was getting in civil life, and the *average* wage for the 580 (say 550) amounted to nearly 30 shillings weekly!

Major Urmston has gone to Dublin in command of the details left behind by the 91st. Lieutenant Watson has gone to Gibraltar. Lieutenant Tweedie remains at the Depôt. The places of Major Urmston and Lieutenant Watson have been filled by militia officers.

The 1st Battalion has gone out strength as follows:

Officers	30
Warrant officer	1
Sergeants	54
Drummers	16
Corporals	41
Rank and file	970

We wish them luck under General Wauchope. When things had settled a bit began the work of looking after the wives and families left behind, and that work still continues. The excellent Society called the "Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association," which has branches all over the United Kingdom, is straining every nerve to ensure that no family will be overlooked during the absence of the 'bread-winner.' The Society is so excellently organised that our soldiers may rest assured that their dependents will be well cared for during their absence.

Captain Malcolm, D. S. O., suddenly turned up at the Depôt. He was sent back sick from Uganda, and his Doctor said that it would be a year before he was fit for duty even in England. He had hardly been here 24 hours when a wire was received from the War Office, saying that Captain Malcolm was posted to the 2nd Battalion and would sail for India on 12th December, This wire was about 12 hours' old when another was received from the War Office to say that "Captain Malcolm was selected for service in South Africa," and that same night he started and is now on his way out to the front, where he is for duty with Colonial Forces, or Irregular Horse, or something of that kind. The luck some fellows have, but how did he square the Doctor? He was, I must say, looking very fit indeed, and had many strange tales of his experiences in Uganda.

The 4th Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders militia are to be embodied at Paisley on the 5th of December. Happily that won't affect us so closely at Stirling. They are supposed to go to Dublin for duty. This Militia Battalion is one of the strongest in Great Britain. Their wives and families will also be the care of the "Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association" people.

News has just come of the defeat and death of the Khalifa. Hope Lieutenant Newall was in at the death. I may ask you later for a subscription to the "Argyll and Sutherland Highlander War Fund," which has been started here at the urgent request of many friends of the regiment, but I'll not ask you yet. We have plenty for present necessities. W. T.

Elandslaagte.

The following extracts from a letter lately received from one of the regiment, who was with the 92nd in that engagement, will be interesting as affording a glimpse of what the attack of a position against modern rifle fire is like.

LADYSMITH.
NATAL
25*th October* 1899.

"Just a line to let you know that I am very fit, though my legs are a bit painful. I shall give you a short account of our doings previous to, and including, the Elandslaagte engagement. After an uneventful voyage, except for a hurricane the night before our arrival, we disembarked at Durban on the afternoon of the 9th instant and immediately entrained for Ladysmith. We left Durban at about 6 P. M. amidst huge cheers. The people were most demonstrative, and absolutely bombarded the troops, who, by-the-bye, were travelling in open trucks, with oranges, cigarettes, &c. It was a most tedious journey up country in spite of all the enthusiasm shown by the people

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along the line. Refreshments were most expensive; we had dinner at a place where beer was sold for 2*s.* a pint, to say nothing of a plate of cold meat for one and sixpence. However, we arrived safely at Ladysmith next day at 11 A.M. and marched into camp, 2½ miles from the station.

The first two nights after our arrival we slept beside our arms, as they expected a show both nights, which, however, did not come off. On Friday night we got orders to go out on a flying column at 3 A. M. on Saturday morning. It was pitch dark when we started, and the roads were something too awful, for it had been raining the whole of the previous day, and as we were at the tail of the column we had to wade through a sort of "*jheel*." We marched about 15 miles when there was evidently some news of the Boers, for we immediately occupied a splendid defensive position expecting an attack every minute, but after waiting for four hours, orders were issued for our return to Ladysmith, where we arrived about 6 P.M. .....On next Friday morning news came in that the Boers were near Elandslaagte (about 15 miles from here), so out went the mounted troops supported by infantry, but beyond capturing one or two prisoners nothing of importance happened. Saturday morning saw the reconnaissance previous to the fight, but we did not go out until about 2 P. M. in trains. Everybody was very keen, but rather sceptical owing to the previous alarms. However, it was not long before the artillery were heard thundering away and a shell burst amongst us, killing a corporal in my company. This was the first of five that burst among us; they were intended as ranging shot at our artillery, which had changed position to the left.

It was magnificent to see our shells bursting right over the enemy's position, and it was only when they did, that you got an opportunity of seeing a Boer. After advancing for about an hour over open undulating ground we wheeled to the left. Just as we were advancing to the attack we were soaked by a heavy shower of rain, but it did not last long. By this time the rifle bullets were beginning to whistle. How any single man ever reached the Boer position is beyond imagination, for the ground over which we had to advance offered absolutely no cover for about 1,000 yards. In addition to this it was so late in the afternoon that the infantry were launched to the attack before the enemy's guns were silenced, so that we might end the fight before dark, which we did, but with no small loss. As we crossed the open the Boer fire was something too awful, absolutely murderous in fact. General White says he has never seen such a terrific fire nor such an awful battle-field. I myself did not get very far, up to about 600 yards from the position, when over I went like a rabbit. It did not take me long to discover I was wounded in both legs and I have now ascertained that I have three wounds on my left and two on my right. After I was bowled over I tried to drag myself under cover of a stone, which I did, and had no sooner done so when whizz! came a bullet through my helmet and hair! To cut a long story short, I was hit about 5-30 P. M., but was not picked up till about 11-30 P. M. during which time the rain had set in again. I was carried to a barn not far off, and passed the night on the straw beside several other wounded, and next night we were brought in here much to our relief. On Monday my legs were examined with the Rontgen rays, and showed 3 bullets, but the medical people have only taken out part of one, as the rest are too deep and will not affect me. The other two wounds are mere bullet grazes, but how I escaped further injury is beyond me, for there are several holes in my kilt."

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What the Parrot's Cousin Says.

—o—

THAT Hockey wis fashionable at Shahjahanpur just before it left.

That "B" Company ken a' about it.

That there wis a few tears shed leavin'.

That it had a maist enjoyable mairch to Bareilly.

That there wis a few sair feet.

That hoo are the michty fallen.

That the teetotalers gave a guid concert.

That "Soldiers of the Queen" wis well rendered.

That all's well that ends well.

That this applies chiefly tae dry wells.

That it arrived in St. Andrew's Nicht.

That it wis royally celebrated.

That Head-quarters wis maist hospeetable.

That it soon got settled down.

That its hill cousin is forgettin' hoo tae speak.

———:o:———

Football.

—o—

The following friendly matches were played during last month—November:—

"*F*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—"F" 3 goals, "H" 0 goals.
"*G*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—"G" 2 " "H" 2 "
"*F*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—"F" 2 " "G" 0 "
"*E*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—"E" 2 " "G" 1 "
Band v. "*F*" *Company 2nd Team.*—Band 2 goals, "F" 1 goal.
"*E*" & "*F*" v. "*G*" & "*H*".—"G" & "H" 2 goals, "E" & "F" 0.
Boys, 93rd v. Boys. Borders.—Borders, 1 goal, 93rd 0.
"*F*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Draw; no goals each.
Band, 93rd v. Band, Borders.—93rd, 2 goals, Borders *nil.*
Boys, 93rd v. Boys, Borders (Return).—93rd, 1 goal, Borders, 0.

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First Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Dublin, Friday.

THE first Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders left Dublin for Cork this morning, *en route* for South Africa. The men, who numbered about one thousand, wore khaki uniform, and were in the best of spirits. The first detachment was paraded at five o'clock in Richmond Barracks, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Goff, and marched to Kingsbridge, where a special train was in readiness to convey them to Cork. The second detachment was paraded at six o'clock, and proceeded by another special train to the same destination. The men were heartily cheered along the route, which was *viâ* the Royal Hospital at Kilmainham. The pensioners in the institution turned out to meet the battalion, and as the men marched past loud cheers were raised, many spectators waving Union Jacks. All the bands in the various regiments in the Dublin garrison were in attendance, and played the men to the terminus, where a large crowd had collected. Among those present were Lord Roberts, Commander of the forces in Ireland, and Major-General Gossett, Commander of the Dublin District. As the train steamed away, the bands played the National Anthem, the crowds meanwhile cheering loudly.

Queenstown, Friday.

MUCH interest is still evinced in the embarkation of troops at this port, and the subsequent sailing of the troopships for Cape Town. To-day an immense crowd assembled at the Deep Water quay, and after bidding relatives adieu, waited until the *Orcana* steamed down the river, when a mighty cheer greeted them on their departure for the Ocean voyage. All along the foreshore crowds of people assembled, particularly at Queen street, where every window in each house was occupied. Pocket handkerchiefs were waved in the air as a last good-bye whilst blue-lights and red-lights were burned on the strands and cliffs as an indication of farewell to the troops, *en route* to fight for their country. The merchant ships in the harbour also exhibited visible signs of farewell in the shape of flare-up lights to the *Orcana* as she steamed out to sea. The military at the Harbour forts congregated *en masse*, and accorded the big ship *Orcana* three mighty cheers as her troops took a last look at the land behind them. To-day the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders embarked on board the ss. *Orcana* for conveyance to Capetown, *en route* for Durban. She came alongside the Deep Water quay last night, and this morning commenced embarking the troops. They were brought by special train from Dublin, and were embarked under the superintendence of Rear-Admiral Lake, Commander-in-Chief of the Irish Stations, General M'Calmont, Commanding the Cork District; and Colonel Wilson, embarking officer at the Port of Cork. The Argyll and Sutherlands are a very fine body of men, and are certain to render a good account of themselves on the field of battle. The troops were embarked without the slightest mishap. There was a large crowd present to-day again to witness the *Orcana's* departure, amongst them being several ladies and gentlemen, wishing good-bye and God-speed to their relatives and friends. On the embarkation being completed the trooper cast off from the Deep Water quay, and the soldiers got a grand send-off, the band playing several appropriate airs. The troops cheered again and again, and were responded to from the shore. The yards of the naval vessels in the harbour were manned, and the men cheered vociferously, whilst the band of the guardship played "Rule Britannia." As the trooper steamed out the harbour she was cheered lustily by the merchant ships lying in the harbour, and by the soldiers stationed at Spike Island and forts Camden and Carlisle.

From the Cork Constitution, Saturday, Oct. 28th, 1899.

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Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association.

APPEAL BY THE DUCHESS OF MONTROSE.

SIR,—I desire to make a special appeal for funds to aid the families of the men of the Reserve of our territorial regiment, who have been called to the colours, and to recommend that the administration of the funds be placed in the hands of the S. & S. F. Association.

This Association has a complete organisation, and is fully prepared to aid the wives and families of the Reservists, as well as those of soldiers now serving in South Africa.

All subscriptions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by the hon. treasurer, Major Middleton, Bardowie Milngavie.

Full particulars may be obtained, and applications made to any of the following office-bearers:—President, Duchess of Montrose, Buchanan Castle, Drymen; vice-president, Mrs. Murray, Polmaise Castle, Stirling; hon. treasurer, Major Middleton, Bardowie, Milngavie; hon. secretary, Colonel P. D. Trotter, The Castle, Stirling. Presidents of Divisions:—*Central*—Mrs. Graham, Airthrey Castle, Bridge of Allan; hon. secretary, Mrs. E. F. Wade, Bellendean, Stirling. *Eastern*—Lady Alice Shaw Stewart, Carnock, Larbert; hon. secretary, Miss Stirling, Glenbervie, Larbert. *Western*—Hon. Mrs. A. Orr-Ewing, Ballikinrain Castle, Balfron; hon. secretary, Mrs. Blackburn, Killearn House, Killearn.

Additional funds are all that are now required to meet the extra demands which must of necessity fall on the Association at the present time. Our soldiers will leave their country with a lighter heart if they knew that their families are to be cared for in their absence.—I am, yours truly.

V. MONTROSE,
President for Stirlingshire of the S. & S. F. A.

:o:

Hockey at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

"*B*" *Company* v. *Shahjahanpur Club.*—Played on Monday 6th November, "B" being victorious by 7 goals to 2. For the winner Logan, Mossman, Stevenson and Atherton were the sheet anchors, whilst 2nd-Lieutenants Kennedy. Herbert and Mr. Anderson did best for the Club.

A return match took place on the 8th. It was a much better game, but "B" were again in the ascendant to the tune of 3 goals to 2. Bartholomew scored the winning goal for his company at a critical moment and played the best game on his side. Lieutenants Kennedy and Herbert were again conspicuous amongst the Club players, and were ably seconded by the efforts of Captain Thompson, R.A.M.C., and Mr. Simmons. Major Stanley Paterson as the custodian of his side did yeoman's service.

"*A*" *Company* v. "*B*" *Company.*—Played on the 10th, the result, despite the weakness of their team, being 7 to *nil* in favour of "B" Company.

"*B*" *Company* v. *Shahjahanpur Club.*—Played on the 11th. The Club combination managed to gain the ascendancy at an early stage and to hold it to the end. This result apparently satisfied all parties, for up to the time of the Wing's departure no more matches had taken place.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Acting Piper.—
No. 5546, Private J. McLachlan, "G" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 3d. per diem:—
"A" Company.
No. 3848, Pte. J. McPherson.

Granted 2d. per diem:—
"A" Company.
No. 3930, Pte. W. McMaster.
No. 4935, Pte. J. Lillie.
"B" Company.
No. 4924, Pte. A. Gillies.
"C" Company.
No. 4942, Pte. J. Brodie.
"E" Company.
No. 4940, Pte. J. Kerr. | No. 4949, Pte. J. Chalmers.

Granted 1d. per idem:—
"B" Company.
No. 5752, Pte. J. Sutherland.
"F" Company.
No. 6315, Pte. P. Oliver. | No. 5995, Pte. J. McGrory.
„ 5946, „ R. Maywood. | „ 6312, „ R. Paton.
"G" Company.
No. 6272, Lce.-Corpl. J. Sutherland. | No. 6342, Pte. W. Williamson.
„ 6319, Pte. J. Johnstone | „ 6336, Private A. McKinnon.
"H" Company.
No. 6107, Pte. W. Grant,

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service with the colours:—
No. 3551 Sergeant H. Kerr, "A" Company.

TOCHI MEMORIAL FUND.

Statement of Accounts.

CREDIT.	Rs.	a.	p.	DEBIT.	Rs.	a.	p.
By Subscription from "A" Company ...	64	8	0	To Thirty-five Crosses erected in various places ...	350	0	0
„ „ „ "B" „	22	0	0	„ Carriage of Crosses from Roorkee to Kushalgarh and Nowshera	40	4	0
„ „ „ "C" „	59	0	0	„ Carriage to Bannu	17	8	0
„ „ „ "D" „	49	6	0	„ Cost of erecting Crosses at Miran Shah ...	19	3	0
„ „ „ "E" „	32	8	0	„ „ „ Pindi	24	6	0
„ „ „ "F" „	69	8	0	„ „ „ Kohat	28	15	0
„ „ „ "G" „	25	0	0	„ Additional carriage Roorkee to Bannu ...	29	15	0
„ „ „ "H" „	59	0	0	„ P. W. Charges at Bannu	4	3	0
„ „ „ Officers	339	14	0	„ Bank Charges, Commission, Stamps, &c. ...	6	5	0
„ Donation from Grocery Bar	100	0	0				
„ „ „ Supper-room	273	11	0				
				„ Bank Draft on London for £ 38-5 (cost of brass tablet and erection of same in West Kirk, Stirling)	573	12	0
Total	1,094	7	0	Total	1,094	7	0

30th November 1899.

J. H. CAMPBELL, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL.

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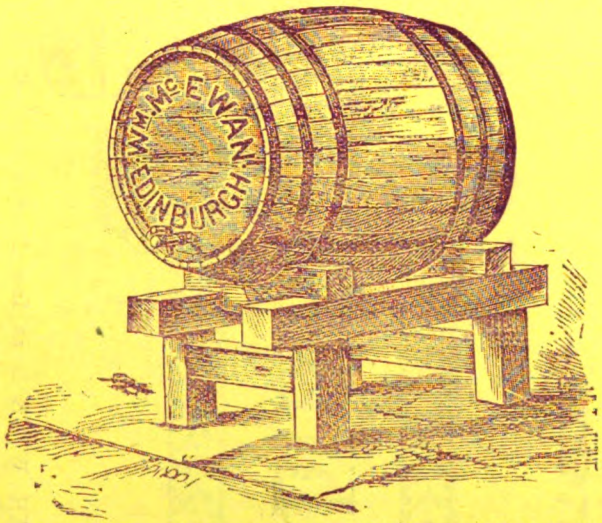
McEWAN'S.

The Soldier's Beer.

IN WOOD

Direct from the SHIP to the MESS.

IN HOGSHEADS.



IN HOGSHEADS.

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The Beer can be supplied from either of their Houses at

CALCUTTA, LAHORE, BOMBAY OR MADRAS.

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Rs. 32-8 Per Dozen.

"NOTHING SUCCEEDS SO WELL AS Success."

Rs. 32-8 Per Dozen.

INVALID'S PORT.

INVALID'S PORT

INVALID'S PORT

THIS PARTICULAR WINE is as free from alcohol as it is possible for Port to be to retain the natural characteristics of a delicate and suitable Wine for Invalids.

Professor CASSAL has analysed our Invalid's Wine, and his certificate of purity is attached to every bottle we ship. Our Wine has fraudulent imitations, we therefore ask that those who order this particular Wine of ours should see that the bottles bear the Professor's name in addition to our own.

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Jan 1900

The Thin Red Line.

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BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS, PASSAGE AND FORWARDING AGENTS.

(ESTABLISHED 1867.)

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PORT SAID: 8, QUAY FRANCOIS JOSEPH.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 9—Vol. V. BAREILLY,—JANUARY 1900. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

AFTER a separation of nearly ten months it is quite a pleasure to find eight companies together again on parade, and an "as strong as possible" commanding officer's parade on the 1st December afforded this opportunity. Nothing can be more injurious to the efficiency of a battalion than a continual splitting up into wings and detachments, and to this we have been pretty freely subjected to since the two first years of our sojourn in India.

Nearly six years ago we marched from Umballa to Mian Mir "immensely strong," as a contemporary of that time remarked in its pages. Certainly we were at full strength, nearly one thousand strong then, and must have looked imposing enough, compared from a Peshawar Valley standpoint; and proud enough was the battalion of its numbers. Fort Lahore was the first permanent detachment we were called upon to furnish, and so during our two years' stay at Mian Mir we were never, even in the winter drill season, able to have the full battalion together. During the summer matters were made worse by the migration of head-quarters to the hills for some eight months or so.

The journey from Mian Mir to Nowshera kept the wings separated until the 1st of January 1896, whilst within a few days of rejoining a company was away to Fort Attock; this detachment continued to be furnished until the battalion was ordered to mobilize for the Tochi expedition; but two hot seasons had in addition robbed us for about six months each of some two hundred and fifty men, sent annually to the hill station of Cherat.

For the few days previous to going to the front the battalion was complete, but was again slightly reduced by having to leave a depôt behind, and every day in the Tochi caused a further reduction in the strength at head-quarters.

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Returning to India in 1898 there were a few short weeks at Bareilly during which almost the full strength was present; but there was always a detachment at Shahjahanpur, and for the larger half of the two past years the wings have again been separated. Even now there are two detachments absent, robbing us of some hundred and seventy men, but this is a minor evil just now, and should rumour prove correct one that may easily be borne with for a few months longer, for it is not at all unlikely that we may spend next summer at Ranikhet instead of Chaubattia, where the whole battalion can be conveniently accommodated, and from where it is hardly likely we shall be called upon to furnish any detachments.

The Year of Our Lord Nineteen-hundred is the one year of the century during which the integrity of the battalion might be most desired. This year the Ninety-third will celebrate its centenary—a celebration that few serving with the battalion will care to miss. Nearly one hundred years ago, in fact to be precise—in May 1800—to General William Wemyss of Wemyss, nephew of the last of the old Earls of Sutherland, was granted a "letter of service" to raise a regiment of foot which for some time was known as "General Wemyss'" Regiment of Infantry. This regiment, 600 strong, assembled at Inverness in the month of August of the same year, and was about the following month entered in the Army List as the 93rd. The same month it was fully armed and equipped, and sent to the Island of Guernsey for garrison duty. The five months of 1900 from May to September inclusive are therefore the months during which the centenary celebration might most appropriately take place, and being stationed at Ranikhet will afford an opportunity for a display next summer, that divided up between Chaubattia and Shahjahanpur we could never aspire to.

* * * * *

The annual contests to decide the possession of the Football and Cricket Clocks have again commenced, and the season 1899-1900 may now be considered in full swing. The Football League commenced on the 2nd ultimo and although it is impossible just at the present time to spot the winner it would not be at all surprising were the trophy to change hands.

* * * * *

The same may be said of the Cricket Clock. The possession of this being decided by the "tournament" system, there is less uncertainty about the final resting place of Colonel Trotter's gift; four companies have already received their quietus and it remains for the other four to decide the possession. Whilst on the subject of cricket the advisability and even fairness of deciding the regimental cricket championship as at present may be queried. In Mian Mir the cricket championship was decided on the "League" principle, and it was only during the last year of our stay in Nowshera, when time was just a little limited owing to the somewhat late start of the 1896-97 cricket season, that introduced the "tournament" system. Surely with more time on hand as at the present, the league so much more interesting, and so much more likely to eradicate the element of chance, might have been reverted to.

* * * * *

The regimental football team have been engaged in one or two fixtures during the last month. The team of the Cornwall Light Infantry from Lucknow were at Bareilly for a few days, and played the Border Regiment and ourselves friendly matches. Our friends and neighbours secured a four to love victory, whilst we were only successful by four goals to one, though the play on our side deserved about half a dozen at the least. Next week we played the Borders on their own ground, the result, although we led at half time, being a draw.

* * * * *

On the 21st our men went away to Lucknow to play a return with the 32nd. Whilst away they played three matches, one of which was won, the other two being draws—hardly a brilliant record. The win was against the Cornwalls, who played a much superior team to that brought to Bareilly, whilst the draws were with the Camerouians and the 3rd Hussars.

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This somewhat desultory training was of little avail on the 28th, when in the first round of the Bengal-Punjab Army Cup the East Lancashire Regiment was met, and only the most sanguine of our supporters could be in any way surprised at the result, which was a win for our opponents by two goals to one. The typically British proceeding of holding one's adversaries too cheap had again been the cause of failure.

* * * * *

Lieutenant C. A. H. Maclean has passed the Lower Standard Examination in Urdu.

* * * * *

Whenever possible route-marching is practised on Fridays, but there have not been a large number of route-marching parades during the month.

* * * * *

Day by day, the Cape of Good Hope (how ill-chosen seems the name) adds but to its ill-omened reputation.

The heavy casualties of our first battalion at the Modder River fight were somewhat compensated for by the success of that engagement, and the knowledge of the gallant (though for some time ignored) part taken by the Ninety-first in Lord Methuen's success. A telegram on the afternoon of the 15th had brought news of General Wauchope's reverse and death at Magersfontein, and it seemed useless, almost wrong, to hope that where the Highland Brigade had lost so heavily the Ninety-first had escaped scatheless. Few were prepared, however, for the bad news contained in the following morning's papers, and that our late Commanding Officer and Major Robinson, both of whom left us so recently, should be the first of the regiment to lay down their lives in the present campaign seems a strange fatality. Immediately on receipt of the news the battalion camp standard was lowered to "half mast" and for a week the band did not even practise. From "that bourne from which no traveller returns" there is no recall, and both, to quote from battalion orders "died as a soldier would wish to die, in the forefront of battle."

On the afternoon of the 16th Bareilly had its first (of the season) Open Gymkhana. The battalion ran several ponies, Lieutenants Elphinston, Kennedy and Herbert all being "up," but there were no successes. There were large crowds in both the enclosures and outside, and no less than three "totalisators" on the field, somewhat indifferently patronised however.

* * * * *

Anything from the far north, the country of our origin, is more than interesting, so we insert the following with great pleasure:—

The Rogart, "D" Company, of the 1st Sutherland Highland Rifle Volunteers, have again been successful in winning the Field Practice Association Cups along with 28 bronze badges, £30 in prize money and about £15 in district prize awards.

It will be remembered, as already reported in your paper, that the Rogart Company were the winners of the same trophies, badges and money last year. It is very creditable indeed that a Volunteer Company in an isolated parish in the Highlands of Scotland should twice distinguish themselves by winning two years in succession trophies in competitions open and competed for by the Volunteer Companies of Great Britain.

The nature of the Field Practice Association competitions is—

(1) The Elkington Shield (won this year by a Lanark Company, last year by the Lairg Company 1st Sutherland Highland Rifle Volunteers), seven deliberate and seven rapid volleys at 300 yards.

(2) *The Lord Mayor's Cup.*—Attack practice from 600 to 200 yards at unknown distances to be completed in 20 minutes.

(3) *The City of London Cup.*—The highest aggregate of the preceding competitions. Captain Mackay Corry, Rogart, is to be congratulated on being in command of such military men; of such stuff should our Highland Regiments be entirely composed to uphold the fame of bygone days.

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All Highlanders in Rogart wish every success to your sister battalion now in South Africa.

OBIN GUIN.

* * * * *

Lieutenant A. Elphinston has passed in (C), (D) and (G) for promotion to the rank of Captain, being distinguished in Tactics and Military Typography, and receiving special mention.

* * * * *

From the Pachmari School of Musketry Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish has been awarded an "Officer's Extra Certificate," and Sergeant J. Soutar a "Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officer's certificate." Lieutenant McCandlish kept up the battalion's reputation by passing first.

* * * * *

Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell was away from the 3rd to 18th December at the Artillery Practice Camp at Pur, where Officers Commanding British regiments were ordered to attend. During his absence Major Stanley Paterson was in command.

* * * * *

Christmas passed quite quietly, there being the usual garrison holidays and the usual celebrations in the lines of the Border and East Lancashire Regiments.

The members of the Sergeants' Mess were seasonably greeted by the receipt of Christmas cards from their brother Non-Commissioned Officers of "the Buffs," 59th East Lancashires, 42nd Black Watch, King's Own Scottish Borderers and 3rd Rifle Brigade.

* * * * *

Most of the battalion have subscribed one day's pay to the Regimental District Widows' and Orphans' Fund. The money collected is to be devoted entirely to the relief of the families of the men of the first battalion who have been killed, and who may yet have to lay down their lives in upholding British prestige in the Transvaal. A statement of the amount collected will be published in our next number.

* * * * *

Statistics do not, as a rule, excite emotion. Little facts relating to one's regiment, however, cannot but be interesting, so the following notes from the Battalion Annual Return may not prove unreadable. As previously mentioned, we are considerably under strength, our numbers at the present time being 26 Officers, 2 Warrant Officers and 921 Non-Commissioned Officers and men. Fortunately this year our numbers have not been unduly reduced by death, only three men having paid the debt of nature during the last twelve months. Almost a record for this country we should imagine, and certainly a record for the battalion. This has been a remarkably healthy year for us, however, the number of sick in Chaubattia last summer seldom exceeded fifteen, whilst the half battalion on the plains at Shahjahanpur was almost equally free from sickness. Even at the present time there are, with the whole battalion together, only some 40 men in hospital, or about half the number contributed by each of the other regiments in garrison here, certainly a subject for congratulation.

Of our numbers 23 of the Officers are Scotch, 2 are English, and 1 Irish, and of these 6 are Presbyterian, whilst the remaining 20 belong to the Church of England. Of Warrant Officers 1 is Scotch and 1 English, their nationality corresponding with their religious denomination. Coming to the rank and file 736 are Scotch, 120 English, whilst 53 hail from the Emerald Isle and the remaining 12 are Colonials, or were born in India. Their religious denominations show 645 Presbyterians, 150 Roman Catholics, 118 Church of England and 8 Wesleyans. The average height is 5 feet 6½ inches (but several small boys are included on arriving at this) and the average service of the battalion is only just under six years. During the last twelve months there have been 16 re-engagements for twenty-one years, and 12 extensions to twelve; a very fair index of the popularity of service in the ranks. Five hundred and sixty-nine men wear good-conduct badges; 359 have one, 202 have two, 7 have three, whilst one has four, and there is in addition one good-conduct medal. From an educational standard we

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certainly score, no less than 35 per cent. being certificated; there are 116 Third Class, 194 Second and 17 First Class Army School Certificates in the battalion, of which 44 Third, 45 Second and 7 First have been obtained during the past year. Since depositing in Regimental Savings Bank has been discouraged by Government, there has been a considerable falling-off in the number of men banking, who at the present time number only 32; these few have, however, managed to accumulate between them the very respectable sum of 453 pounds, 11 shillings and 4 pence.

* * * * *

Most blood-curdling descriptions of the fighting in the Cape have recently been appearing in some of the sensation-loving newspapers: extracts from letters sent home by men in the ranks. To say that in most cases the writers appear to have drawn somewhat largely upon their own vivid imaginations is to write quite mildly indeed, and they recall to mind letters that we remember having seen published in some of the home papers about the time the battalion was with the Tochi Field Force, not forgetting the healthy originality of that member of the "Disappointed Draft" who harrowed the feelings of his friends at home with a most vivid account of hardships and dangers experienced by his draft in *fighting their way up-country from Bombay to Nowshera to join the battalion at the front.*

* * * * *

The large number of dogs seen about camp (all apparently owned by some one, as few seem to be caught without the protecting collar) seems to suggest that a very sensible increase to the regimental funds, or at any rate a material and desirable decrease in the number of curse-causing *kuttas*, might be obtained by making the possession of a dog a taxable luxury. The necessity of purchasing a regimental license for a dog at, say, a rupee or so a year, would cause many a budding dog-fancier to pause and consider well before accepting the responsibility of ownership of some pestering pariah. We offer this suggestion, in which there looms visions of great pecuniary profit, quite unreservedly to the regimental authorities.

The most momentous event of the last month was, of course, the celebration of "Hogmanay," although it somewhat trespasses upon the New Year, and a full account of it belongs by right to a new number. "Hogmanay" eighteen-hundred and ninety-nine, however, despite having so extended somewhat in the year Nineteen-hundred, cannot but be recorded together with the doings of the last month of the old year. December 31st, 1899, happening to be a Sunday, the few hours leading to midnight were observed more or less as a quiet vigil, the tolling of the mystic hour upon the gong at the regimental quarter guard being patiently awaited. During the last expiring moments of the old year the pipes and drums played "Happy we've been a' thegither," and then just as the sentry commenced sounding the hour of midnight upon his brazen charge the time-honored melody, "A guid New Year tae ane an' a'," by the band proclaimed the advent of Nineteen-hundred, the closing year of the old century.

Playing through the main thoroughfare of the camp, the band, followed by the larger portion of the battalion, continued its way to the Officers' Mess. Here Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell and the majority of the officers, in accordance with ancient custom, accepting the invitation of a deputation from the Sergeants, journey to the Sergeants' Mess, where Bandmaster Davies, in the absence of the Sergeant-Major, who was away on leave, welcomed them in a neatly worded speech, wishing them the compliments of the season. Colonel Campbell replied briefly, regretting his inability to improve upon anything said by his "gallant and musical friend," and then the New Year was toasted all round and good wishes for Nineteen-hundred exchanged.

* * * * *

In many other parts of the great Indian peninsula "Hogmanay" was bringing pleasant recollections. From Edwardesabad, better remembered by us as Bannu, the officers of the Punjab Frontier Force wired:—

"In the Loving Cup presented by your regiment to the Punjab Frontier Force Mess, Edwardesabad, we drink

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to your health and that of your sister battalion, wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year, and many of them."

The Sergeants too were in receipt of several telegraphic messages of seasonable purport. From Poona their brother non-commissioned officers of the Royals, and from Cawnpore the Sergeants of the King's Own Scottish Borderers sent "a guid New Year tae ane an' a';" from the Cameronians at Lucknow came "A Happy New Year," whilst the Scots Fusiliers at Peshawar dotted and dashed a similarly worded message, adding that they were drinking their healths.

At such a season of the year, and under such pleasant influences it is impossible for "The Thin Red Line" to resist contamination, and so devoid of originality and weak as it may seem, it takes this opportunity of wishing each of its readers a very happy New Year and many of them.

To the Memory of Brave Men.

—o—

A BATTLE PRAYER.

God grant us death in battle, bravely led,
Not death, slow death, on some luxurious bed:
Death! with the chant of battle on the breeze—
Death! with a vision our loved ones on their knees—
Death, with the blast of trumpet in our ears!
Assuage their sorrow, Lord, our dear ones' tears,
Death! mid the rolling music of the drum—
Death, with the visions of the life to come!
Death, with the clarions thrilling on the air!
Death, with the deepest peace, peace, everywhere.

ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL.

Obituary.

—o—

Since our last issue we have to deplore the loss of two well known officers lately belonging to this battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Goff and Major Robinson, who both fell while leading the 1st Battalion in the action at Magersfontein on the 11th December. Both officers were much loved and respected, and their death will be deeply felt by all ranks.

Born on the 8th March 1855, Lieutenant-Colonel Gerald Lionel Joseph Goff joined the 91st from the Militia on the 10th March 1875, was promoted Captain on 1st July 1884, Major, 21st September 1892, and Lieutenant-Colonel, 23rd July 1898. He served with the 91st in the Zulu War of 1879 and was present at the battle of Ginginhlova, receiving a medal and clasp for 1879. In 1888, he was appointed Adjutant of the Stafford Volunteers, remaining with them till 1893, when he rejoined the 1st Battalion in Edinburgh.

On his last promotion, Lieutenant-Colonel Goff was posted to the 2nd Battalion, but in June 1899, he exchanged to his old battalion, at whose head he fell.

Major Sydney Loftus Robinson was born on the 21st June 1860. He joined the 93rd from the Militia on 23rd July 1879, was promoted Captain, 21st November 1888, and Major 27th June 1899.

In 1884, he was transferred to the 1st Battalion in South Africa and served with that battalion in Ceylon and China, being Adjutant from 22nd November 1887 till 21st November 1891.

In 1893, he rejoined the 93rd, and with them served in the frontier campaign of 1897-98 with the Tochi Field Force, receiving the medal and clasp; on promotion last year he was posted to the 91st and only joined them at Modder River two days before the battle of Magersfontein, in which he fell.

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The Modder Fight.

—o—

The last mail of the old year brings full details of the Modder River engagement together with the anxiously awaited list of casualties. What a lengthy roll of well remembered names it seems! Yet from that feeling so inseparable to the perusal of its long list of killed and wounded, amongst which are the names of many who seemingly but a short time ago were familiar figures in the ranks of the Ninety-third, comes another of pride and satisfaction in reading of the Ninety-first's splendid behaviour throughout the fight.

All of the many descriptions of the battle agree that it was a most severe test of both the bravery and endurance of the British force, and all seem to agree also that of the various regiments forming Lord Methuen's force none distinguished themselves more than the First Battalion Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Reinforcing Lord Methuen's column for the relief of Kimberley just in time to join in the infantry advance on the Modder River, which commenced about half-past six on the morning of the 28th November, the Ninety-first were early pushed forward to support the right, afterwards being transferred to the left of the advance. It must have been a trying experience, this advance. The British force apparently had to attack across a dead level plain, a still more exposed railway embankment bisecting the line of the advance. In front of the Boer position ran the river, the Modder River, the river of mud, so named from the consistency of its waters, the bridge over which had been wrecked. Lining the further bank of the river were shelter trenches and rifle pits excavated in the sand, strengthened in many ways and impervious to our rifle fire. Two stone buildings near the wrecked bridge surrounded by out-houses and trees formed the centre of the enemy's position, which somewhat in the form of the crescent stretched for about five miles along the river bank enfilading the advance. Along the line guns were distributed, some of heavy calibre.

Our artillery commenced the battle at about five in the morning. Then over the open plain the infantry deployed and pressed forward to the attack. At first they were subjected to only a heavy shell fire, but as they came within about eight hundred yards of the Boer entrenchments a perfect hail of bullets from rifles and maxim guns rained upon them. Still they advanced. "Nothing could have been grander," writes a correspondent describing the advance of our first battalion, "than the manner in which the Highlanders faced a perfect hail of bullets. There was no wavering, the men went steadily on as though on parade. They won the admiration of the General, who is full of praise at their performance."

The war correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* in his description of the battle expresses himself somewhat similarly:—

"The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were sent up to support the firing line. Their advance was a magnificent sight. With a steady swing they swept into the zone of fire. When half-way up to the firing line they were ordered to support on the left of the railway instead of the right, so had to take ground to their left. There was no hurry about them. They gave a splendid exhibition of cool courage and indifference to the hottest of fire which was now turned on them, and being the only troops standing up and on the move they drew the fire from all round. They lost a lot of men in passing to the flank, but once across they lay down, and the fire slackened slightly." It is known from what the papers say that there was absolutely no cover for a man standing, and so sheltered by but the folds and undulations of the ground the infantry lay for hours; remaining exposed to the full fire of an almost invisible enemy, with the sun beating down upon them with semi-tropical heat.

Gradually, very gradually, portions of the attacking force on the left neared the river and towards the close of the day attempts were made to cross it. "I believe Lieutenant Thorpe, with some Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, was the first over" writes the *Daily Telegraph's* representative, and this turning movement, at first unfortunately unknown to our artillery on the right, whose shells were falling unpleasantly near our men, preventing them from advancing further, was really "the beginning of the end." Darkness came on and preparations were made for a night attack with the bayonet. The men were found to be too exhausted, however, after the long day in the hot sun without food or water, in some cases without even a breakfast before starting, so the idea was abandoned. During the night the enemy, with their flank turned, evacuated their position, so that on the following morning the cavalry patrols found it deserted except by the dead and dying. The Ninety-first followed the cavalry, and so the position was occupied—the battle won!

And the cost? Out of a total loss of some four hundred and seventy of all ranks the first battalion furnishes two officers wounded, 15 non-commissioned officers and men killed, with 91 wounded and 1 missing; 3 of the wounded died and many are seriously ill. Five of the dead were found in the enemy's works, the result no doubt of one of the early unsuccessful attempts to force.

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the passage of the river, for the special correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* writes of one of the earlier phases of the fight:—"Several rushes were now made for the river at various points. A company of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders succeeded in getting across, but they lost heavily, and had to fall back to the south bank. We found five of their dead in the Boer entrenchments to-day." The engagement was made up of many brilliant episodes, many individual acts of heroism but the eloquence of words has nothing to compare with these five silent proofs of the first battalion's dashing gallantry at the Modder fight.

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Football.

—o—

FRIENDLY MATCHES.

Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry versus *93rd Highlanders.*

Played at Bareilly on the 11th December, "ours" winning by 4 goals to one, though the result was nothing upon which the team could be congratulated, it being almost forced upon them.

Previously the Cornwalls, who had travelled up from Lucknow, had met the Borders in the latter's ground, the result being four to *nil* in favour of the home team.

Border Regiment versus *93rd Highlanders.*

The following week a practice match with the Borders was arranged, it taking place on Friday, 15th December. On their form against the Cornwall Light Infantry the 55th promised to be no mean adversaries, and so they proved themselves. In the first half "ours" managed to secure an advantage and in crossing over we held the lead with one goal to *nil*; after some very even play in the second half, however, the Borders managed to equalise just before the whistle blew, the scores thus remaining "one all." There was a slight difference in the composition of our team on this occasion.

Lucknow Tour.

To secure further practice, and possibly for other reasons, the team journeyed to Lucknow on the evening of the 20th December. Here matches had been arranged with the 3rd Hussars, Cameronions and Cornwall Light Infantry, all of whom were met in due course.

Of the three matches played two were drawn, the only win, and this by the narrow margin of but one goal, being against our old opponents the Cornwalls. The first match was against them and resulted after a good game in a win by 3 goals to two. Next the Cameronians were met and a very evenly contested match ended in a draw, one goal each. The 3rd Hussars were met last and our team not being in full strength could only secure another draw, each side on this occasion scoring twice.

BENGAL-PUNJAB ARMY CUP.

(*First Round*).

2ND EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT *versus* 93RD HIGHLANDERS.

AFTER the somewhat qualified successes previously mentioned great things were not expected on the 28th ultimo, the date arranged for the match in the first round of the Bengal-Punjab Army Cup. This being so, there could be no great disappointment in the result, although to supporters of regimental football it could hardly be called encouraging.

An occasional bare win interspersed amongst many draws against teams of hardly superlative excellence was the record of the few preceding weeks; and these friendly matches, added to the journeyings to and from Lucknow, where three of the games were played, had been almost the limit of the training. The composition of the team, too, hardly gave the general satisfaction that might have been desired, whilst sickness certainly kept one of the best and most reliable players out of the field, and materially handicapped another. No such petty excuses, however, will palliate our defeat, nor rob the East Lancashire Regiment of the credit of a well deserved victory.

We had choice of ground, and naturally played on our own, which long before the hour appointed was well surrounded by eager spectators, the East Lancashires, no doubt, on account of their numerical superiority in camp, seeming to be in a large majority, whilst they certainly, and not unnaturally perhaps, appropriated the lion's share of the popular demonstration.

Both teams took the field soon after 4 P.M., ours being fortunate enough to have choice of ends, and naturally electing to play with the sun at their backs. The teams lined up as follows:—

East Lancashire Regiment.

GRAINGER.
CATON JENKINSON.
CROWTHER BRYCH CHAPMAN.
McGUINNESS ROWAN BRENT HEARN BOOTH.

McAULAY LEITCH HOUSTON McKENZIE POLLOCK.
SILCOCK BENSON CPL. WATSON.
BAKER WALLACE.
CARTER.

93rd Highlanders.

The "Lilywhites" were encouraged by an early success. Our forwards had the ball at the start, and were well down the field until the Lancashires back division getting it passed it forward again to their right wing, when it was soon shot forward past our right back, who got flurried, a beautiful goal from a clinking shot

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from the centre being the result. Our custodian did his best to save, and managed to touch the ball, but the shot was much too swift and high. The game now was very fast, and the Lancashires pressed continually. Carter in goal had all his work cut out, but keeping remarkably cool made some marvellous saves. Afterwards our forward line woke up a little, and by some nice passing Leitch was able to score very neatly, thus equalising. Half-time went with the score unaltered at one goal each.

Re-starting the game was not very interesting, except perhaps from a Lancastrian's point of view. Swifter shooting and greater activity gave the East Lancashires every advantage, and although our team occasionally pressed and once secured a couple of corners, no one was really sanguine enough to imagine they would win. All hopes of a draw, too, were dispelled after about a quarter of an hour's play, as the "Lilywhites" again scored with a beautiful shot. The remainder of the game until the whistle blew was unproductive to either side, the result thus being two to one against us—a most merciful conclusion considering the relative value of the play of the two teams.

Comment on the play would be almost useless. Few of our men played up to their reputations even, and the few who did play well, particularly Carter in goal (who could not have done better) and Baker at back with Watson and Benson occasionally, could not save the game.

—:o:—

From Shahjahanpur.

—o—

Dear Mr. Editor,

Shahjahanpur is probably the last place in the world where one would go to look for rollicking gaiety, and, after the departure of the wing for Bareilly, the barracks wore an air of desolation truly depressing to the few genial souls left behind. We felt sadly in need of an entertainment to tide over the interval to the Christmastide and New Year festivities.

The occasion brought forth the man, and our energetic acting Sergeant-Major—ever studious of our welfare and interests—is to be congratulated upon the success of the "gaff" of the 20th ultimo. There was no lack of volunteers, and although *all* the singing was, perhaps, hardly up to first class professional form, yet the merits of the majority of the items made the entertainment well worth going to hear.

For the piano we were indebted to W. F. Taylor, Esquire, C. S., and Bandmaster Davis, very kindly came in from Bareilly to play the accompaniments. A very pleasant feature of the entertainment were the contributions of Mrs. Ewan and Mrs. Gover. The former gave a perfect rendering of "The song that reached my heart," and to a unanimous encore responded with a fine interpretation of "Cam ye by Athol." Mrs Gover, too, is to be congratulated on her "first appearance." We hope that we shall have an opportunity of hearing these ladies again at our future concerts.

Sergeant Leech (Puttees) was very successful in his "country" songs, as also was Sergeant-Instructor Foy in his Irish Comics. Both were encored. Two other noticeably good items were the contributions of Private Armour and Lance-Corporal Glass. The former sang "Good-bye, Sweetheart, Good-bye," with much taste and expression, and the latter was very funny in his "Mr. Duncan McIntosh." I enclose the programme.

Yours very truly,
"LONELY MIKE."

THE PROGRAMME.

Part I.

1. *Opening Chorus* ... "Ye Banks and Braes."
   Company.
2. *Song* ... ... "Golden Shore."
   Private Hewson.
3. *Song* ... ... "It was Gone."
   Private Atherson.
4. *Song* ... ... "Tom Bowling."
   Private MacTaggart.
5. *Song* ... ... "McCormacks."
   Sergeant-Instructor Foy, R. V. R.
6. *Song* ... ... "Aye wark Awa."
   Private Pollock.
7. *Song* ... ... "Club Swinging."
   Boy Campbell.
8. *Song* ... ... "Juanita."
   Mrs. Gover.
9. *Comic Song* ... ...
   Sergeant Leech, Cameronians.
10. *Song* ... ... "For Old Time's Sake."
    Schoolmaster Gover.

Part II.

1. *Song* ... ... "Flora MacDonald."
   Private Strachan.
2. *Song* ... ... "Good-bye Sweetheart."
   Private Armour.
3. *Recitation* ... ... "Not so bad."
   Inspt. Atkinson, N.-W. P. Police.
4. *Song* ... ... "Rothesay Bay."
   Private Ross.
5. *Song* ... ... "Rafferty Won the Mile."
   Sergeant-Instructor Foy.
6. *Song* ... "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep."
   Lance-Corporal Greenland.
7. *Song* ... ... "The Song that reached my Heart."
   Mrs. Ewan.
8. *Song* ... ... "Sad Catastrophe."
   Private McLean.
9. *Song* ... ... "Aileen Alannah."
   Private Savage.
10. *Song* ... ... "Mr. Duncan McIntosh."
    Lance-Corporal Glass.
11. *Comic Song* ... ...
    Sergeant Leech.

God Save the Queen.

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What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

That tick is guid for trade.
That there has been an impromptu dog show.
That nae budy has been shot in mistake.
That pull throughs hae been put tae many strange uses.
That the maist oreeginal is frae the Licht troop.
That the pioneer's shovel was slightly corroded.
That there has been lots o' fitba'.
That some o' the league matches hae been excitin'.
That Pihla appear tae hae made a mistake.
That their tug-o'-war team trains ower weel.
That it turns oot tae represent them at everythin'.
That there is nae mistake about the weight tho'.
That the clock holders will hae tae buck up.
That the richt hauf may perhaps get a chance this year.
That fitba' disna' seem tae flourish as it shud; mair's the pity.
That some buidies kick a lot of misses.
That it has not been an unusual occurrence.
That some of the regimental team suffer frae the same weakness.
That they hae a few ither weaknesses tae.
That it cannot trust itsel' tae say mair.
That it wasn't at the Shahjahanpur "Gaff."
That it believes a recitation needed an accompaniment.
That "Hogmanay" wis celebrated in the auld style.
That there were some fancy costumes.
That some mad Fakirs were neat and inexpensively disguised.
That ane needs a long spoon tae sup wi' the deil.

———: o :———

Inter-Company Football League.

—o—

"*A*" v. "*B*" *Company.*—Played on Saturday, 2nd, and resulted after a hard game in a draw. Scores: "A" 2 goals; "B" 2 goals.

"*C*" v. "*D*" *Company.*—Played on the 4th, "C" Company winning by 2 goals. Scores: "C" 3 goals; "D" 1 goal.

"E" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Played on the 5th, "F" Company winning easily. Scores: "E" 0; "F" 4 goals.

"*G*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—Played on the 6th, "H" Company who were not in full strength completely collapsing. Scores: "G" 7 goals; "H" *nil.*

"*A*" v. "*C*" *Company.*—Played on the 7th, "C" Company winning. "A" again played their tug-of-war team. Scores: "C" 2 goals; "A" *nil.*

"*F*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—Played on the 12th. Quite a "surprise packet," the "holders" losing a hard game by 3 goals to 1. One of "F" Company's forwards resented some unfair criticism and left the field soon after half time, which materially weakened the "blues" attack when it was perhaps most needed. "H" Company scored early in the game, the play at half time, standing 2 to *nil* in their favour, which "F" Company found too big a lead to wipe off.

"*A*" v. "*D*" *Company.*—Played on the 13th. "Pihla" again played their heavy weights, and the game resulted in a draw, no goals being scored on either side. The game was a very even one.

"*B*" v. "*C*" *Company.*—Decided on the 14th, the "Light Troop" having matters mostly their own way. The score finished 5 to love in favour of "C," which was about the relative value of the play of the two teams.

"*E*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—Played on the 16th, "H" winning. Scores: "H" 3 goals; "E" *nil.*

"*A*" v. "*E*" *Company.*—Played on the 18th ultimo. A draw resulted, neither side scoring.

"*B*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Played on the 19th ultimo, the left half representatives naturally winning. Scores: "F" 3 (4?) goals; "B" *nil.*

"*D*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—Played on the 20th, the left half battalion representatives proving victorious. Scores: "H" 4 goals; "D" *nil.*

———: o :———

Inter-Company Cricket Tournament.

—o—

(*First Round.*)

"*C*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—Commenced on Thursday 7th, and finished on 14th ultimo; Scores: "*H*"—Ptes. Carruthers, 4, not out, 10; Grant, 1, 0; Lce.-Cpl. Daniel, 23, 2; Lieut. C.A.H. Maclean 6, 12; 2nd-Lieut. M.G. Sandeman, 0, 0; Arm.-Sgt. Holden, not out, 10, 2; Pte. Murphy, 0, 0; Cameron, 1, 0; Sergt. Clark, 3, 1; Ptes. McNiff, 0, 0; Gallagher, 0, 6; extras, 7, 0: total 55, 34. "*C*"—Pte. Gibson, 2, 0; Captain Jackson, 0, 8; Pte. Johnson, 10, 6; 2nd-Lieut. J. P. Villiers-Stuart, 16, 1; Sergt. Watters, 2, 12; Pte. Yeo, 0, 2; Corpl. Mahoney, 12, 24; Pte. Geddes, 2, 0; Sergt. Beavis, 2, did not bat; Ptes. Cairns, 20, 2; French, not out, 2, 1; Corpl. Kelley, not out, 12; extras, 10, 6: total 78, 75.

"*A*" v. "*D*" *Company.*—Played on the 14th.—"A" won by an innings and 41 runs, mainly owing to the batting of 2nd-Lieut. Kennedy; Scores:—"*A*"—Pte. Rafferty, 2; McEwan, 1; Smith, Sheridan, 18; D. Campbell, 12; Lce.-Cpl. Willcocks, 14; 2nd-Lieut. J. Kennedy, not out, 48; Ptes. J. Allan, 4; Hunter, 8; W. Allan, 11; Harrison, 12; extras 8: total 138. "*D*"—Pte. Trotter, 13, 3; Easton, 3, 0; Spellman, 3, 0; Burns, 0, 8; 2nd-Lieut. Thomson, 0, 4; Ptes. Ross, 1, 4; Allen, 9, 13; McMaster, 5; Smith, (Sub), not out, 0; Cole, 0, 1; Deans, 3, 5; Ferguson, not out, 0, 9; extras, 3, 12: total 40, 57.

"*E*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Played on the 21st December. "F" Company, owing chiefly to the efforts of 2nd-Lieut. Maclean, proved victorious by 65 runs; Scores:—"*E*" 2nd Lieut. Spry, 9, 0; Sergt. Peggie, 6, 0; Ptes. Kennedy, 6, 12; Ogden, 4, 0; Gowans 36, 0; Corpl. Ballantyne 2 (not out) 2; Ptes. Miller, 5, 0; Douglas, 9, 9; Duncan, 0, 13; McDonald, 3, 0; Lawrence (not out), 13, 2; extras 3, 6: totals 96, 44. "*F*"—Ptes. Gilletly, 1, 4; Smith, 0, 0; Wainwright, 0, 0; 2nd-Lieut. A. J. H. Maclean, 49, 15; Lce.-Corpl. Buchanan, 3, 20; Ptes. Atherton, 18, 0; Muir 5 (not out), 5; Lumsden 5, 0; Miller 0, 15; Sergt. Durnan, 15, 3; Pte. Edwards (not out) 8, 22; extras, 7, 10: totals 111, 94.

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"*B*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Played on the 28th, the "holders" being defeated by the "ex-holders" by an innings and 33 runs. For the winners 2nd-Lieutenant Herbert played a dashing innings of 70; Scores:—"*G*"—Ptes. Baker, 0, 6; Donaldson, 3, 5; 2nd-Lieut. Macpherson, 2, 21; Corpl. Hall, 20, not out, 6; Ptes. Benson, 3, 5; Ellis, 5, 1; Pullar, 1, 4; McKay, 9, 1; Corpl. Adcock, 2, 5; Ptes. Miller, 0, 0; Kelley (not out) 0, 0; extras, 5, 6: total 50, 60. "*B*"—Lieut. Harvey, 22; Sergt. Stonor, 9; 2nd-Lieut. Herbert (not out), 70; Ptes. Stevenson, 28; Mossman, 1; Lillywhite, 0; Russell, 0; Johnson, 0; Logan, 0; Henry, 0; Lce.-Corpl. Newell, 4; extras, 9: total 143.

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The 4th Battalion.

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On Tuesday evening, the 4th Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Renfrewshire Militia) left Gilmour-street Station in two special trains for Glasgow, from whence they sailed the same evening by two of Messrs. Burns' mail steamers for Dublin, where they take up garrison work. Notwithstanding the wet and disagreeable weather, great crowds turned out to witness the departure. The fact that it took place after the public works had been closed accounted to some extent for the crush. Headed by the brass and pipe bands of the local Volunteers, playing popular tunes, the Militia, as they passed through the streets, made a brave show. In the vicinity of Gilmour-street Station the crowd was particularly dense. As the trains departed the bands played. "Auld Langsyne" amid patriotic domonstrations on the part of the departing Militia. Three hundred of the men will be quartered in Ship-street Barracks, Dublin, and 600 in Wellington Barracks. The regiment, it may be stated, is about 1,000 strong and 900 of the men have been sent off to Dublin, 100 being left at Paisley Barracks under Captain A. D. Campbell. The last embodiment of the Militia, similar to the present one, was during the Crimean War. In 1878, during the Russian scare, the reserves were called out, but their services were not requisitioned. It is estimated that about 300 families will, by the departure of the regiment, be left comparatively unprovided for, but they will be attended to by the Soldiers and Sailors Families' Association, which, in taking subscriptions, has expressly stated that part will be devoted to the dependents of the Militia. Prior to his departure, the Colonel commanding the regiment was in receipt of a telegram from Princess Louise in the following terms:—"I am so pleased that the 4th Battalion, my own regiment, have turned out so well. I wish them the best luck.—Louise." The officer in command was Colonel A. C. D. Dick, his staff comprising Lieut.-Col. M. D. Campbell, Hon. Lieut.-Col. J. C. Cunninghame, Hon. Majors the Hon. T. A. E. Cochrane and J. T. Scott; Captains Graham, Hall, Houldsworth, Pearson, and Mure; Lieutenants Gilligan, Walker, Hazelrigg, Orr Ewing, and Faulkner Stuart; Captain and Adjutant James Deane, and Captain and Quarter-Master McRae.

From the "Paisley and Renfrewshire Gazette.

Ninety-third Calendar for February 1900.

—o—

1	Th.	Fathgarh for Cawnpore with Hope's Brigade, 1858. Left Durband, Eusofzaie for Sialkote, 1864. (End of Umbeyla Campaign).
2	F.	Arrived Bareilly from Kushalgarh, encamping on maidan, 1898. (From Tochi Field Force).
3	S.	
4	S.	General William Wemyss of Wemyss d. Colonel 1822. Moved into Barracks at Bareilly in relief of Wing Cameronians, 1898.
5	M.	
6	Tu.	
7	W.	Re-embarked New Orleans preparatory to returning to England, 1815. Arrived Cawnpore with Hope's Brigade, 1858. Arrived Mian Mir from Umballa, 1894.
8	Th.	Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Hyslop, Bart., G.C.B., Colonel 1822.
9	F.	Final, Football League, 1897-98. Won by "F" Company.
10	S.	Robert Dale, Lieut.-Col. 1814.
11	S.	
12	M.	Wing arrived Unao escorting siege train. Indian Mutiny Campaign, 1858.
13	Tu.	Wing arrived Unao escorting siege train, 1858. Annual inspection by Brigadier-General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, Bareilly, 1899.
14	W.	Embarked H. M. Indian transport *Jumna*, 1870. Annual inspection by Brig.-General Elles, Nowshera, 1896. Conclusion of annual inspection, 1899. Draft from home arrived Bareilly, 1899.
15	Th.	Left Bombay for home 1870; strength 22 officers, 520 non-commissioned officers men, 49 women 93 children. Colonel William McBean, V.C., relinquished command, 1878; retired with rank of Honorary Major-General. Annual inspection Nowshera, 1896.
16	F.	Establishment increased from 750 to 850 rank and file, 1852. William Wallingford Knollys, Lieut.-Colonel 1878.
17	S.	
18	S.	Inter-Company Physical Drill Competition, 1899; won by "C" Company.
19	M.	
20	Tu.	Col. Robert Spark *d.* Elgin, 1852, after 45 years' service in 93rd; Lorenzo Rotho Lieut.-Colonel. Left jungles of Oudh for Sabathu, 1859. (End of Mutiny Campaign). Right Wing left Bareilly for Shahjahanpur, 1899.
21	W.	
22	Th.	
23	F.	Right Wing arrived Shahjahanpur from Bareilly, 1899.
24	S.	
25	S.	
26	M.	Left Unao for final advance on Lucknow, 1858.
27	Tu.	Embarked at Plymouth on board hired transport *Himalaya* for Malta *en route* for Crimea, 1854. Arrived Sialkot from Umbeyla Campaign, 1864. Rohilcund District Assault-at-Arms, 1899. (First Day).
28	W.	Rohilcund District Assault-at-Arms, 1899. (Second Day). Won "Tug-of-war" and "Physical Drill."

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Corporal—No. 4198, Lance-Corporal J. Ricketts, "F" Company, dated 18th October.

PAY OF RANK.

Of Lance-Corporals.—No. 5645, Lance-Corporal H. Bracken, "C" Company, dated 18th October; No. 4878, Lance-Corporal J. McLachlan, "H" Company, dated 24th Novenber; No. 5321, Lance-Corporal P. Allen, and No. 6202, Lance-Corporal J. McInnes, "G" Company, dated 28th November; No. 6292, Lance-Corporal, J. Sutherland, "G" Company, dated 26th December 1899.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Pioneer.—No. 6067, Private H. Love, "H" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 2425, Private A. McInnes, "B" Company, No. 5490, Private J. Smith, and No. 6032, Private J. Youngson, "C" Company.

To be Acting Piper.—No. 5594, Private J. McGilwray, "B" Company.

EMPLOYMENT.

To be Drill Corporal.—No. 4567, Corporal D. Inglis, "G" Company.

SERVICE RESTORED.

In accordance with para. 1842, *Queen's Regulations*:—

No. 4218,	Private W. Scott,	"D"	Company,
„ 3050,	Piper D. McLachlan	"H"	„
„ 3865,	Sergeant T. Campbell	"D"	„
„ 2035,	Private E. Chidley	"B"	„

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 6535,	Drummer	T. Cridland,	"B"	to "F"	Company.
„ 5593,	„	J. Balfour	"E"	„ "F"	„
„ 5690,	„	P. Brisland	"C"	„ "G"	„
„ 4198,	Corporal	J. Ricketts	"F"	„ "C"	„
„ 2035,	Private	E. Chidley	"B"	„ "D"	„
„ 6566,	Piper	C. Hoey	"D"	„ "F"	„
„ 5638,	Private	J. Clarke	"D"	„ "C"	„
„ 5707,	„	B. Gordon	"E"	„ "B"	„

COMMISSARIAT SUPPLIES.

Passed examination in supply duties:—

No. 3990, Lance-Corporal G. Gardiner, "D" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 2d. *per diem*—

"B" Company.

No. 4962, Private J. Henry.

"C" Company.

No. 4948, Private C. Clement.

"D" Company.

No. 4770, Private J. Collius.

"E" Company.

No. 4956, Private J. Collins.

"G" Company.

No. 6703, Private W. Houston.

"H" Company.

No. 4946, Private D. McPherson. | No. 4922, Pte. R. Green.

Granted 1d. *per diem*—

"F" Company.

No. 6338, Drummer W. Balfour.

"G" Company.

No. 6375, Private D. Donaldson.

"H" Company.

No. 5869, Private R. Stuart.

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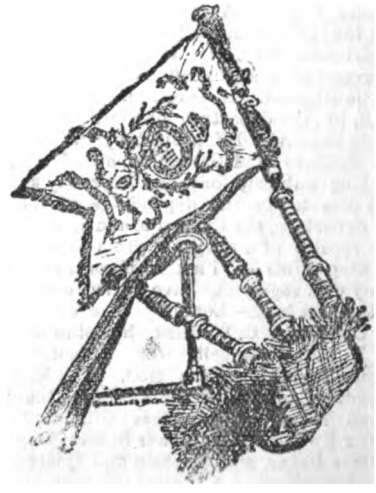
"B" Company—			
No. 4 Section	2	11	6½
Section Commander, Sergeant Stonor	0	3	11½
"C" Company—			
No. 4 Section	2	7	3
Section Commander, Sergeant Ewan	0	6	9
"D" Company—			
No. 2 Section	2	8	1½
Section Commander, Sergeant Johnstone	0	6	10
"G" Company—			
No. 6 Sub-Section	2	10	6
Section Commander, Private W. Benson	0	7	3

BIRTH.

BUSH.—At Ranikhet on the 25th October 1899, the wife of Colour-Sergeant H. W. Bush, of a daughter, Gladys Maria.



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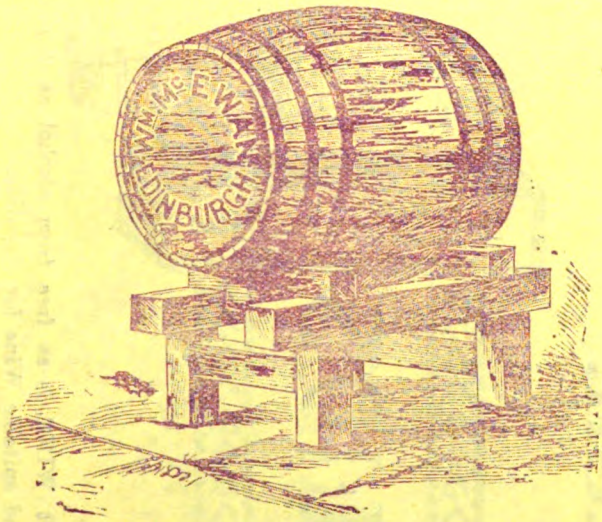

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Feb 1900

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૬૨૦, ગીરગામ, મુંબઈ.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper
OF THE
2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 10—Vol. V. BAREILLY,—FEBRUARY 1900. [Price, 2 Annas

SKIRLS

A GUID New Year tae ane an' a'! Certainly? An' mony o' them!! Why not?

And it was a very respectable New Year's Day. Hogmanay was touched upon in the last Number, so there is no necessity to allude further to it here, or to the temporary impetus it gave to the ærated water industry; suffice it to again reiterate that the ancient and seasonable rites and ceremonies were performed with due solemnity. On the first each company had arranged for the annual celebration. Some companies dined altogether under spreading trees with *kanauts* (*Anglicé* tent-walls) arranged to protect the good things within from the gaze of envious eyes without; other companies struck a few tents and re-pitching them three and four together made excellent *marqueés* in which all could be seated, whilst others again preferred cosy little parties by tents, for being under canvas there could be nothing elaborate. The Commanding Officer visited all the dinners, a somewhat irregular *feu-de-joie* of cheering signalising his circuitous progress through the lines. Company officers also visited their respective commands, their healths being enthusiastically drunk with honours, Highland and otherwise, the good feeling, so characteristic of the auspicious occasion, predominating.

Before all this there had been the usual "Proclamation Day" parade, the battalion forming up on the left of the line of infantry before the midday gun had fired; the East Lancashires were on the right, and then came the Border Regiment and 5th Bengal Light Infantry, whilst the 8th Bengal Cavalry (who by-the-way are shortly to blossom out into Lancers) were on our left. The G. O. C. having arrived, the Union Jack was hoisted and the troops presented arms; then the *feu-de-joie* was fired and following that came the march past and then to quarters. Dinners were served immediately, upon the return of the battalion, and the afternoon, except perhaps for a somewhat undisguised

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partiality for music, national and "country," passed quite uneventfully.

By "Tattoo" exhausted nature had pretty thoroughly asserted itself, and although the startling notes of the fire bugle ringing out upon the silence of the night soon after eleven o'clock acted as a momentary tonic, there was a speedy relapse when shortly afterwards the "disperse" sounded. A grass shelter near camp had accidentally become ignited, but it burned itself out almost before the bugle's warning notes had ceased.

* * * * *

On the second there was a somewhat trying field day, some five or six miles to the north of Bareilly city, which was manfully borne with by all; but one man (a well known athlete by the way) being unequal to the strain of the occasion. The battalion returned about 3 P.M.

* * * * *

The week following a sketch programme of the district assault-at-arms was divulged, and teams to represent the battalion in the various contests began to be collected. The dates fixed were Saturday and Monday, 20th and 22nd January, and all entries were to be sent in to the Honorary Secretary before the 17th January. There were to be the usual Bayonet Exercise and Physical Drill competitions. The "Alarm Posts" was to differ slightly from last year, as a field service tent was introduced which had to be struck and packed. There was to be tug-of-war "three pulls all over the line," but eventually these conditions were changed to the usual one "once all over," and also a cross country race for teams of eight over "about 2½ miles." Afterwards too a signalling competition was added to the list of events, the prize being presented by Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Campbell.

It was impossible to make the training of the various teams as consistent as might have been wished, so many "full attendance" parades from time to time intervening; still almost everything compatible with that strict and inflexible conduct only to be expected from those whose predecessors barely one hundred years ago selected elders from their ranks, and have handed down a service of Communion Plate to their descendants, was done to add to their efficiency.

Physical Drill team in preparation is always self-advertising, and the training on this occasion, taking place as it did in close proximity to the "Editorial Sanctum" at about the hour usually set apart for a sweet siesta, can be personally vouched for.

* * * * *

It seems only yesterday that we heard of our fourth battalion being embodied at Paisley and going to Dublin. They could hardly have settled down there before the opportunity of volunteering for service arrived, and taking advantage of it they are now following in the wake of the first battalion, and are off to the Cape. What extraordinary good fortune seems to pursue some, whilst others again find no favour in the eyes of the fickle goddess! And how delighted the majority of the permanent staff—many so well known in this battalion—must be at again being given the opportunity of seeing active service. The 4th Battalion sailed in the *City of Rome* on the 3rd January, and should be landed in South Africa before the end of the month.

* * * * *

On the 5th the Border Regiment were to have commenced their month's training "under service conditions." We paraded early, being detailed to join the force, endeavouring to intercept them and their baggage on their march to Sirdarnaggar Ghat, and so well did we succeed, apparently, in carrying out our instructions that the day's operations were declared "off" after we had all but finished a stiff forced march across country to seize the "bridge-of-boats" over which they would have to pass. The proposed encamping ground, situated in a charmingly secluded spot beyond the Ramganga river, was apparently not quite ready for their reception, the water-supply scheme being in a somewhat embryo stage. This necessitated the Border Regiment remaining in barracks for another week, when on the 12th the tactical scheme of the previous Friday was successfully carried out.

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The Borders seem particularly unfortunate with this training. After having eventually arrived at their camp at Sirdarnaggar Ghat the "service conditions" of the instructions were made much more realistic by the storm on the night of the 23rd (or more strictly speaking the early morning of the 24th), which almost completely washed us out at Bareilly, and must have proved most instructive to our friends and neighbours encamped upon the banks of one of Hindustan's most sacred streams.

* * * * *

As the last mail of the old year brought us the casualty list of the Modder River fight, so by almost the first mail of the new comes Magersfontein's bloody butcher's bill. Being but number three battalion of the entrapped column probably saved the Ninety-first from suffering as heavily as did the leading battalion of the ill-fated Highland Brigade. Yet our first battalion's death-roll is long enough, goodness knows! Again as in the Modder fight the hand of fate has fallen especially heavily upon those who have but recently been recalled from the reserve and whose loss in so many cases will be the cause of the most suffering.

* * * * *

On Tuesdays the Band, in addition to the pipes and drums, performs at "Tattoo." There is not a musical programme, but both "Posts" are sounded by combined band and bugles with a decidedly pleasing effect. This is an artistic innovation upon which the Drum Major may be congratulated.

* * * * *

The right-wing's pleasant summer quarters of last year will shortly be allowed to join the gradually increasing list of the disused cantonments of British India. The Government of India have at last decided that as accommodation becomes available at Chaubattia so will the garrison of Shahjahanpur be decreased until eventually another full battalion is located in the Ranikhet hills.

As mentioned previously it will be some considerable time before Chaubattia's building scheme can be completed, suitable building material being difficult to obtain, and then but from a distance. Still, this summer Rohilkund will be one short of its usual complement of three British infantry battalions, and so Shahjahanpur is to get a foretaste of what is eventually in store for it, and be left vacant.

* * * * *

The future of Chaubattia and Shahjahanpur having been thus satisfactorily arranged for interest turns to our new summer station.

The budding rumour of last month has now blossomed into a full blown reality, and no doubt by the time this number is published we shall be well on our way to, if not already in, Ranikhet. No orders have as yet been issued, but the Shahjahanpur detachment daily expects to rejoin headquarters preparatory to the northern exodus, when we shall all go to Ranikhet with a wing of the East Surrey Regiment, who recently relieved the Cornwall Light Infantry at Lucknow, to Chaubattia. Both wings having now in turn experienced the pleasures of a summer in Chaubattia the topography of the neighbourhood of Ranikhet must be fairly familiar to the majority, though Ranikhet cantonment itself is still probably somewhat of a *terra incognita*.

* * * * *

The vicinity of Ranikhet has never seemed to possess any great charm for dwellers in Chaubattia. The overpowering and impartial courtesy of its late guardians of law and order, added to its curiously enervating atmosphere having usually proved obstacles in the way of patient research that even our most persevering explorers have been seldom able to overcome. We fear that from a resident's point of view Ranikhet's chief disadvantage will be, to coin an expression, its "scatteredness," some of its bungalows being veritable detachments, but beyond this and the fact that it is some 5,983 feet above the sea level, or nearly 1,000 feet lower than Chaubattia, we are as innocent of any detailed knowledge

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respecting it as, we were going to say the draft, but they have not arrived yet, so will substitute "Pagett M. P."

* * * * *

Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish is just now Brigade Signalling Officer at Bareilly.

* * * * *

All leave of any kind out of India has been stopped, and there is very little probability of any transfer to the Army Reserve from the Indian Army this trooping season; as a matter of fact the Army Reserve under the present strain must almost have ceased to exist. There is still such a thing as an invaliding board however, and several passages have already been allotted in a boat "sailing some time about the middle of February."

* * * * *

There was a Regimental Gymkhana on the parade ground on Thursday, 18th, at which all the beauty and manhood of Bareilly seemed to be assembled. The events included the Subalterns' Point-to-Point Race for a Cup presented by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell. Lieutetant O. C. Herbert rode "Strawberry" to victory over a somewhat difficult course of some two-and-a-half miles. An exciting league football match between the champions of the right and left half battalions in the latter part of the afternoon proved a counter-attraction, during the time it lasted, but at its close there was a reversion in favour of the gymkhana to witness the Balaclava Melée.

* * * * *

The battalion was on parade for a promotion "board" on the 13th, at which 2nd Lieutenants J. B. Macpherson and M. G. Sandeman passed successfully in subjects "A" and "B."

* * * * *

January has been a somewhat unsettled month. The weather after about the first week had been dull, overcast, and threatening, and decidedly wintry. On the 14th some heavy showers of rain in the morning during the celebration of Divine Service culminated in the evening in a short but severe hail-storm. The downfall did not last long but for some considerable time afterwards the country round, except for the verdure of the trees, which by the way suffered pretty severely from the short and sharp bombardment, wore a most wintry and seasonable aspect. The storm was certainly not such a heavy one as that experienced in Nowshera during May 1897, but some of the stones held in canvas of the tents were quite equal in size to the average pigeon's egg.

The result of the storm was somewhat milder weather for a few days with rain threatening; then a fairly heavy storm on the night of the 17th almost flooded the camp; a still heavier fall on the early morning of the 24th quite completed the discomfiture, some of the tents having nearly a foot of water in them. The field firing practice of the 26th was to have been rehearsed on the 24th, but the "disperse" sounded instead of the "dress," and the day was devoted to baling out and to the perfection of a drainage extension scheme.

* * * * *

Saturday, 20th, and Monday, 22nd, were days devoted to the Assault-at-Arms, courts-martial and boards, and a few other things of more or less importance. At the Assault-at-Arms we commenced well, almost too brilliantly. Corporal Williams started by winning the instructors' gymnastic competition from, amongst others, be-medalled opponents of great local repute; in most of the combats too our representatives managed to score; Corporal Reid eventually securing the distinction of being "best man at arms" and so winning Lady Meiklejohn's prize. The "Alarm Posts" on Saturday afternoon was also a neat win, the result of careful training, but afterwards results were less encouraging, and although the physical drill team secured another first for the battalion on the second day there was a feeling of irritating depression, after the loss of prestige incurred late on Saturday afternoon, that seems to have communicated itself even to the pen as this is being written.

A full account of the Assault-at-Arms appears in another page.

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From a Glasgow paper :—

Old 93rd men will learn with satisfaction that their comrade, Sergeant Diverty, whose demise we announced last Monday, was laid to his rest, and followed to his grave by a large company of men who knew him. The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Mr. William Macleod, Municipal Buildings, who all along has taken a fatherly interest in our departed comrade's children. Not only was the Municipal staff represented at the grave, but the remains were carried by four old 93rd men, each of whom had held the rank of colour-sergeant. Their names are—Smith, Russell, Scott, and Kerr. Our old friend sleeps in the Western Necropolis. May the grass wave gently over his grave.

* * * * *

The football season of 1899-1900 has hardly been as productive of excitement as that of 1898-99. Last season "F" and "G" had an equal number of points standing to their credit at the conclusion of the "League" which necessitated a "final" to decide the winner. Then the first match was a draw and a second had to be played.

This season the League matches have not all been played, but the result was put beyond a doubt when "G" met "C" Company on the 18th. "G" have had an uninterrupted run of success this season, and it is impossible but to admit that it has not been wholly undeserved, so the "clock" once more returns to its resting place of 1892-93 season.

* * * * *

Bareilly had "Races" on the 23rd and 25th ultimo. Both days were more or less spoiled by the weather. The first afternoon it drizzled nearly the whole time, whilst on the second it was almost equally overcast and threatening. There were no regimental successes to chronicle on either day, in fact we were unrepresented on the first. An old Shahjahanpur favourite, Mr. Murray's "Scamp," ran a good race on the second day, but was just beaten.

* * * * *

There was field firing on the 26th January over the old ground beyond the Ramganga at Sirdarnagar Ghat. The parade was in "marching order," and it would have been somewhat more comfortable with a hundred rounds of ball ammunition per man to balance the equipment. Dinners were cooked out and it was half-past four before the battalion returned.

Being Friday it was "guest night" at Mess, Colonel Watson and the officers of the East Lancashire Regiment being entertained prior to their move to Jullundur.

* * * * *

The 2nd East Lancashire Regiment left by half battalions for Jullundur on the last two days of the month, head-quarters going on the 30th Our band, drums and pipes were in attendance on both afternoons to play the 59th to Bareilly Railway Station, the move owing to famine in the land being effected by rail. The East Lancashire Sergeants were members of our Sergeants' Mess during the latter part of their stay in Bareilly.

* * * * *

It was notified that the annual inspection would take place during the first week of February, so during the last few days of January we were pretty busily employed brushing up those little details that are not found any of very great utility during less momentous periods of our existence.

* * * * *

The *London Gazette* of the 29th December 1899 was most interesting reading, and there are many congratulations to offer. Lieutenants K. F. C. Marshall, H. C. Macdonald, W. J. B. Tweedie and John Campbell all Captains, and almost too many to enumerate have the "Star." And more to follow shortly.

* * * * *

The Sergeant-Major has received for the Sergeants' Mess a very excellent photograph of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Goff. The kindly thoughtfulness of Mrs. Goff prompted the gift, which has been suitably acknowledged.

* * * * *

In addition to the money subscribed for the Territorial Fund the battalion contributed most liberally to the Soldiers' Home Fund, enabling Miss Schofield to forward a respectable amount to head-quarters; through her courtesy

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we are permitted to publish the following detail:—

						Rs.	a.	p.
2nd Batt., East Lancashire Regiment					...	172	8	0
2nd Batt., Border Regiment	...	...	...	...	...	239	9	3
Other subscriptions	...	...	...	...	...	16	0	0

			Rs.	a.	p.			
93rd Highlanders,	"A"	Co., per Pte. Jones	13	0	0			
	"B"	" " Thomas	14	8	0			
	"C"	" " Soutar	70	0	0			
	"D"	" " Brown	56	12	0			
	"E"	" " Coleman	82	0	0			
	"F"	" "McLauchlan	28	4	0			
	"G"	" " Gibson	17	2	0			
	Band	" Hollands	21	8	0			
	Sergeants' Mess	...	34	0	0			
			337	2	0	337	2	0
		Total Rs. ...				765	3	3

* * * * *

The sum collected in the battalion for the Regimental Fund has amounted so far to one thousand and ninety-seven rupees five annas, to which may be added a further sum of some fifty rupees, the proceeds of the concert held at Shahjahanpur on the 24th ultimo. Captain E. S. Wood, an old Ninety-third Officer, who served through the Mutiny with the regiment, and who is at the present time staying at Bareilly, has most liberally subscribed one hundred rupees to the fund. A balance sheet is published on page 124.

* * * * *

Captain Tweedie in a letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, thanking him for the battalion's contribution to the Territorial War Fund, says—

"Colonel P. D. Trotter has asked me to acknowledge the receipt of the very handsome donation to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders War Fund; he is very busy. I am going to recommend him to apply the money immediately for the benefit of our own widows and orphans. We have something like £800 one way or another in the bank.

The widows and orphans of our men have been very handsomely treated by the special funds raised. Each has received down cash £10 from the Imperial War Fund and £20 from the Daily Telegraph Fund. The Daily Telegraph Fund also bought an annuity value £15 for each widow, and in some cases placed £50 in the bank for each child not to be touched till the child is seven years of age. This is exclusive of the various life assurances, collections by former employers, &c. One woman I know got £60 straight off!"

With Lord Methuen.

—o—

The two following letters from "our own correspondents" with the first battalion, whose names for obvious reasons have not been divulged, have recently been received and will we feel sure be read with more than ordinary interest by every one.

MODDER RIVER CAMP,

7th November (December?) 1899.

I promised I would not be like the remainder, but would write occasionally, so will now fullfil my promise.

In civilian life there was really nothing to write about, and my last to * * * was also for your perusal, but now we are again on the "Gong Hukum," probably I will be able to give you four pages of news, more or less interesting.

After receiving the mobilization summons, I had to report myself at Stirling, got accoutrements and kit, then went with some 300 other reservists to Richmond barracks, Dublin, and joined the 91st. * * * * We embarked at Queenstown, October 27th, landing at Cape Town, November 17th. Nothing great occurred on board, save the death of C. S. Hope, of "F" Company, whose colours Jock Stewart (Librarian at Chaubattia) got. We trained all the way up to some four miles from the camp south of the Modder River, stopping at De Aar about a week, and at Orange River station for two days. At De Aar Fred Collins who used to be in "C" Company passed us; he was one of an escort of the Munster Fusiliers, but hoped to get transferred to "Ours." On Tuesday, the 28th November, we left camp at 4 A.M., and after about an hours' marching the dispositions for the attack were made, we occupying the line of supports on the extreme left. About 6 A.M. before we realized it, shells began bursting all round us, and at first before I saw anyone fall, the whole thing reminded me for all the world of a field day. One of the first wounded of our Regiment was my left hand man Mackintosh by name, an old soldier, transfer from the Highland Light Infantry, who was canteen waiter at Dublin. Shortly after he fell we were merged into the firing line, and for about seven hours we lay under the hottest fire that British troops have ever experienced. Mauser, Martini-Henri, explosive, buckshot, everything flew round and about us, and a Hotchkiss gun, that went Bob-bob-bob worried us immensely. About 1 P.M. a Staff Officer called for a few of us to fix bayonets and charge a house from which the Boers were firing at us and doing a lot of damage. I was glad of the chance, as the backs of our legs were all blistered by the sun; the Boers skiddadled, and after a short

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breathing time, sheltered by the house, we charged down to the river bank and crossed and poured some volleys into the retreating enemy. Then for about an hour the troops got out of hand, and ransacked all the deserted houses, meanwhile the fighting was going on fiercely on the centre and right of the line.

To cut a long story short, firing lasted to 10 P.M. when we drove the Boers to hell, and captured the railway bridge, crossing the Modder River. You will have seen the account in the papers, however, long ere this. One could not help bobbing as the bullets whistled and pinged past, but I do not think there was any feeling of funk, only of exasperation at not being able to see the beggars firing at you. I filled my pipe, and had a comfortable smoke whilst popping away at them, but afterwards whilst looking after some of our wounded in the houses I had a few narrow shaves from some of the animals hidden in the undergrowth; still their shooting is greatly overrated. Now as the mail is closing, with best wishes to * * * * and all old friends.

———:o:———

12th December 1899,

MAGERSFONTEIN.

We marched off on Sunday, the 10th instant, at 2-30 P.M., and marched about five miles in the direction of Kimberley. The artillery opened fire at the enemy's position about 5 P.M., and ceased fire at 6 P.M., we bivouacked for the night in a downpour of rain. Although our guns fired for one hour the enemy made no response. At 12 midnight we resumed our march, two companies of the Black Watch being thrown out in extended order, followed by the remainder of the battalion. The Seaforth Highlanders came next, then the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders with the Highland Light Infantry in the rear. The rain came down in torrents, every man being drenched to the skin. I believe there was one company of the Gordon Highlanders with us. We were marching in quarter column of companies and had just received the command to "move to the right in fours" when a light shone out on the hill, and a perfect fusilade began. Our men threw themselves flat on the ground, but owing to the close formation we were in, it was difficult to get down, the men in some places being two and three deep, and had the Boer marksmanship been up to their former standard there would have been very few left to tell the tale. The officers shouted "be still," but the word "retire" was passed from the front and a number of men made a rush to the rear for cover. We ran from bush to bush, and after getting a bit clear of the enemy's fire we formed up and advanced again, not, however, without running the gauntlet of a hot cross fire from the left of the position. The artillery came up and started to shell the enemy. About 11 or 12 o'clock the remainder of the Gordon Highlanders appeared, and immediately advanced, picking up stragglers on their way up the field. * * * * When the enemy started firing into us, I do not think we could have been more than 500 yards from their trenches, and it was a good job for us that day light had not broken. * * * * Lord Methuen gave a speech on the 13th to the Brigade and sympathised with us in the loss of our officers and men. * * * * He told us that everything had been carried out as planned, and that we had been within an ace of a short and decisive victory, and had the word "forward" been given instead of "retire" all might have been well. What we would like to know is why was it not given, or why was the "charge" not sounded. It is perhaps as well that things happened as they did as the enemy had three barbed wire fences in front of their position. That this was so, the torn state of the legs of the men in the front who were killed bore strong testimony.

When Major Robinson was first wounded he refused to go to the rear. Ault of "G" Company, 2nd Battalion, was next to him when he was first wounded. I was in Sydney's Company.

Paper is precious. We receive ¼lb. jam ration daily. Last night it appeared in orders that salmon and sardines would be issued to the troops when available. Since landing in the country we have not marched 20 miles, so with the exception of the "fighting days" this is only a picnic compared with the Tochi. Rooty is very scarce. When tinned meat is issued, we get an assortment, Brawn, Bully, Corned Meat and Wild Rabbit. I will write next week or the week after as I am fed up now.

DRESS.—Helmet as usual—khaki.

JACKET.—Buttons covered with khaki.

KILT.—Apron covered with khaki (no sporran)

HOSE (worn over the knees if preferred).—As dirty as possible, dyed in coffee or rubbed in sand. Garter flashes not shown, tucked underneath garters. Spats—khaki, Boots—brown. Beards worn as usual.

It is left to the wearer whether or not he turns his hose down, some don't turn them down, but expose the garters. A fair percentage have the knees all bandaged in rags or cloths to protect them from the sun.

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Rohilkund District.

—o—

ASSAULT-AT-ARMS.

January, 20th & 22nd, 1900.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE AND ORDERS OF
BRIGADIER-GENERAL SIR W. H. MEIKLEJOHN,
K.C.B., C.M.G.,
Commanding Rohilkund District.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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Lieut. B. A. HARVEY, 2nd A. & S. Hrs.

Honorary Secretary:

Capt. L. I. WOOD, 2nd Border Regiment.

—:o:—

Concentrated at a military centre for the cold weather drill season, nothing is probably more eagerly looked forward to by the rank and file there gathered together, perhaps from many stations of a widely scattered district, than the annual District Assault-at-Arms, the "Garrison Sports" of the populace. In this respect Bareilly's present garrison cannot be said to differ greatly from the thew and muscle of other military centres, whilst the drill season of 1899-1900 resembles other and previous drill seasons, in a no less degree. Assaults-at-Arms usually mark the near conclusion of the working season, but this year at Bareilly the expected early departure of one of the British Infantry battalions to another district, and the possible curtailment of the cold weather programme by the somewhat earlier move to the hills of the more fortunate of the remainder, accelerated events somewhat with the result as above.

It must be admitted that no great publicity was given to the details of the programme, the front page of which we have used as an introduction; in fact our own special representative informs us that it was with the greatest difficulty he even managed to secure a copy, such was the censorship exercised. By a masterly stroke, however, worthy of the "Thin Red Line's" reputation as an up-to-date journal, we are enabled to reproduce almost a *facsimile* of this programme, which, having been obtained only after so much trouble, must, as our representative points out, surely be of inestimable value and should therefore be most highly prized by our readers; more especially as the majority of the events which came under his (our representative's) notice have had the results marginally noted. But to proceed. On both days the programme commenced in the morning; we are only able to give bare results of these early events owing to the devotion to duty of our before mentioned representative, who was unfortunately prevented from being an interested spectator until the afternoons. One of the first events to be decided (the Gymnastic Competition) gave the battalion an early success seemingly auguring well for the future. This was in the Garrison Gymnasium, where Corporal Williams won the open competition comparatively easily. Considering the little practice available under canvas and the reputations of some of those against whom he was competing his justly deserved success is a subject for congratulation and general satisfaction.

The preliminary heats of several of the foot, combats were also decided during the morning our competitors doing remarkably well.

The afternoon also commenced well, General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn's prize coming to the battalion. Even the most biased were fain to admit that it was deserved. "Alarm Posts" conditions differed somewhat from last year. Tents were ready pitched on the ground sheltering anxious teams of one non-commissioned officer and eight men. Upon the "G" sounding arms and equipment were brought out and piled; the tent was then struck, packed and loaded (this is where our teams scored), then dressing in field service order and doubling some fifty yards, the loaded mule following, a volley was fired. Our team performed in the excellent time of three minutes thirty seconds whilst full points were also awarded them for packing (indeed their load looked quite like a plate from Colonel Burlton Bennett's book—*ad free*) and fire discipline. Neither of the other teams succeeded in accomplishing their task in so short a space of time, nor were they, it must be candidly admitted, so perfect in other details. The result was most gratifying as great pains had been taken in preparing for the competition.

How different might have been the result of the next event under similarly advantageous circumstances. Lulled into a false security by previous successes however, no attempt was made to even select a team until the publication of the programme came as a warning that some kind of preparation was necessary if our former prestige as exponents of the art of tug of war was to be upheld. Then there was not much time and a team had to be hastily gathered together, from even our detachments. Under ordinary circumstances no doubt even this might have sufficed, but the occasion called for more than such a happy-go-lucky process could be expected to produce. Ever since our victories at Chanbattia and Ranikhet in 1898, and of last year here, the

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East Lancashire Regiment have been preparing with most commendable perseverance for this last and final test before leaving the Rohilkund District. The defeat of our left wing team at Ranikhet last summer should have suggested that any claims we might have had to superiority were to be challenged when the occasion arrived, as events have only too well proved.

It was approaching to dusk when the teams lined up. To the ordinary observer they appeared most equally matched and in taking the strain our men had a little advantage, but it was not for long. The East Lancashires' superior condition soon began to tell, and in four minutes the suspense was over and so was our team, every man, over the line. That such a thing should have been possible! Shade of '98!!

The following is the programme of the first day:—

1st Day, 20th January 1900.

Time.	Event.	Judges.	Winners.	Prizes. 1st.	2nd.
11-30 A.M....	Gymnastic Competition (Open)	Capt. Twynham, Capt. Wood, ...	Corpl. Williams, 93rd	12	8
12-0 noon...	Ditto (closed to Instructor and men with 1st Class Certificates).	Ditto ditto	Pte. Roberts, 55th ...	12	...
			„ Hughes, 59th ...	8	...
				...	...
2-0 P.M. ...	Bayonet v. Bayonet	The Committee			
2-0 P.M. ...	Sabre v. Bayonet	Ditto	Preliminary heats ..	...	...
2-30 P.M. ...	Sabre v. Sabre	Ditto			
2-30 P.M. ...	Boxing (Light Weight)	Lieut. DeGex, Lieut. Maclean, Capt. Leslie ...			
3-0 P.M. ...	Fencing	The Committee	Sgt. Maycock, 55th	12	...
			Sgt. Gardiner, 55th	...	8
3-0 P.M. ...	Sword (Mtd.) v. Bayonet	Ditto	Preliminary heats ..	10	5
3-30 P.M. ...	Boxing (Heavy Weight)	Lieut. De Gex, Lieut. Maclean, Capt. Leslie...		12	...
4-0 P.M. ...	Bayonet Exercise. Native, Finals	Capt. Moffat, Lieut. Campbell, Lieut. Allington	5th B. L. I.	20	...
4-15 P.M. ...	Jumping with led horses R. F. A. Prize presented by Mr. Darrah.	Col. Campbell, Lieut.-Col. Meade, Capt. Geddes		...	...
4-30 P.M. ...	Alarm Post. Prize presented by Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, K.C.B.	Bgr. Genl. Major Johnson, Capt. Robertson, Capt. Leslie	93rd Team	32	...
5-0 P.M. ...	Riding and Jumping, 8th B. C.	Col. Campbell, Col. Meade, Capt. Geddes ...		20	...
5-30 P.M. ...	Tug-of-War. British, 1st Heat	Capt. Vanrenen, Capt. Argles	59th pulled 93rd	...	...
5-30 P.M. ...	Ditto Native, Final	Capt. Twynham		30	...
5-45 P.M. ...	Sword Exercise. Teams of 20 ... ... Best Man at Arms. (Prize presented by Lady Meiklejohn).	Lieut. Becher, Lieut. Maule	8th B. C. ... ... Corporal Reid, 93rd ...	20 25	... ...

A day of rest, Sunday intervened between the first and second days.

The first event on the 22nd was the signalling competition for a prize presented by Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell. This took place on the *maidan* and did not come to the battalion, the first occasion of such ill success since arriving in India. Certainly the team was somewhat handicapped, the selection being limited, and there is some satisfaction in knowing that in the last annual inspection report our signallers were classified much higher than the teams that on this particular occasion happened to be more successful.

The finals of the various foot combats took place in the Gymnasium as on the first day, a fair amount of success still attending our men. Corporal Reid gained Lady Meiklejohn's prize as best man at arms.

The boxing contests were decided during the afternoon, our men securing the heavy weights, whilst Private Comrie who entered the ring after just having finished the very trying cross country run made a very plucky fight with Private Robson of the East Lancashires in the final of the "light weights."

Of the team displays with arms, the Bayonet Exercise was first. Our team led off followed by the Border Regiment, who performed most exactly in beautiful time, the East Lancashires' team coming last. All could not but be unanimously in favour of the Borders who were most justly adjudged the winners. In the Physical Drill the excellence of the movements of our team were almost as pronounced as the Borders' precision had been noticeable in the former competition, more especially in the performance of the seventh practice, though in this the "Lilywhites'" team had made an attempt at flattery in its sincerest form.

The cross country race was a most severe test of endurance, and in this also our team would have been better had they had somewhat longer notice. As it was the race could hardly be called very satisfactory (apart from the fact that we lost) as the course was ill-defined and somewhat too liable to be mistaken.

Before the Tug-of-War final there was a "surprise" competition by teams from the 70th Royal Field Artillery which was decidedly interesting watching. Then there was tent-pegging for officers in which our quartette had decidedly hard lines in losing by only one point, and some other things on horse-back. The tug-of-war between the first day's winners and the Border Regiments team was the last event, or the last our representative took any great interest in, and it promised to be very exciting. There was a certain amount of disappointment, however,

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when the teams stood to the rope, the Borders seemingly being a very light team, hardly appearing to come up to the standard of their last year's detachment. They were no match at any rate for their opponents, and the united encouragement of their own battalion added, it must be admitted, to that of the largest portion of our men present could not prevent them from losing. The programme of the second day was somewhat as follows :—

2nd Day, 22nd January, 1900.

Time.	Event.	Judges.	Winners.	Prizes. 1st.	2nd.
11-30 A.M.	Signalling Competition. Prize presented by Campbell, 2nd A. and S. Hrs.	Capt. Argles, Lieut. Becher	59th Team ...	32	...
2-0 P.M.	Bayonet v. Bayonet (Final)	The Committee	{Cpl. Reid, 93rd Pte. Gillctly 93rd,	12	...
2-0 P.M.	Sabre v. Bayonet. (Final)	do.	Cpl. Reid, 93rd	...	8
2-30 P.M.	Sabre v. Sabre (Final)	do.	{Sgt. Gardiner, Sgt. Gardiner 55th	12 ...	... 8
3-0 P.M.	Boxing. Light Weight Final	do.	{Corpl. Reid Pte. Robson, 59th	12 ...	... 8
3-0 P.M.	Do. Heavy do. do.	Lieut. DeGex, Lieut. Maclean, Capt. Leslie ...	Pte. Comrie, 93rd	...	...
3-30 P.M.	Bayonet Exercise, British	Lieut. DeGex, Lieut. Maclean, Capt. Leslie ...	Pte. Orr, 93rd	16 ...	13
3-45 P.M.	Cross Country Race. Prize presented by Major Burton, Major Corpendale, Capt. Officers, R. A. M. C.	Capt. Moffat, Lieut. Campbell, Lieut. Allington, G. O. C. and Major Burton.	55th Team	12 ...	...
4-0 P.M.	Jumping Competn., R. F. A.	Jephson.	59th Team	...	50 ...
4-30 P.M.	Physical Drill	Col. Campbell, Col. Meade, Capt. Geddes ...	55th Team	...	32 ...
4-45 P.M.	Surprise at Day-break	Capt. Moffat, Lt. Campbell, Lieut. Allington, G. O. C., Major Burton.	R. F. A.	...	... 8
5-0 P.M.	Tent Pegging. (Swords) 8th B. C. Prize presented by Mrs. Burton.	Capt. Geddes, Capt. Dixon	93rd Team	...	20 ...
5-0 P.M.	Prize presented by Officers	Col. Campbell, Major Caulfeild	R. F. A.	...	50 ...
5-30 P.M.	Tug-of-War (Finals)	Do. do.	...	...	32 ...
5-30 P.M.	Tricks on Horse-back 8th B. C.	Capt. Argles, Capt Vaurenen	55th 2nd Team	...	16 ...
		Col. Meade, Capt. Vaurenen	59th pulled 55th	...	50 ...
		PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.		...	10 5

All competitions in the afternoons will take place on the race-course in front of the Grand Stand.
The decision of the Committee will be final.

There was no torch-light tattoo or any musical display as a grand *finale* as last year, the massed bands only performing in the enclosure of the grand stand during the second afternoon, and although it is impossible to help regretting that the battalion was not more successful in the event probably most coveted, it is still some consolation to know that nearly the half of the prize money open to competition by British Infantry found its way into the pockets of the battalion, whilst as a last resource we can certainly claim, as did some seven years ago a contemporary hailing from, at that time, not one hundred miles from Umballa, that we managed to secure "nearly all the artistic events;" for surely Alarm Posts, Physical Drill, Heavy-weight Boxing, various foot combats, Gymnastics and best man at arms may be included in this category.

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Contributions from the 2nd Battalion to the Fund which is being raised for the assistance of the families of men of Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in South Africa.

Jany. 1900.		Rs.	a.	p.
	By from "A" Company	104	4	0
	" " "B" "	79	14	0
	" " "C" "	80	0	0
	" " "D" "	96	12	0
	" " "E" "	136	0	0
	" " "F" "	66	2	0
	" " "G" "	93	0	0
	" " "H" "	112	4	0
	" " Mr. Gover	4	3	0
	" " Captain Wood, late 93rd Highlanders.	100	0	0
	" " the officers	224	14	0
	Total ...	1,097	5	0

Jany. 1900.		Rs.	a.	p.
	Remitted to O. C., 91st Regimental District.	1,097	5	0
	Total ...	1,097	5	0

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Inter-Band Shooting Match.

—o—

On Thursday there was a triangular shooting match between teams representing the three bands of the Bareilly Garrison. Naturally the Border representatives were the most at home on their own range and thus kept up the shooting reputation of their battalion by winning with a margin to spare. There were some fairly respectable scores, although the weather was not favourable. The Border band had made all the arrangements for the match, including the supplying of refreshments, and both they and their brother musicians of the other corps enjoyed a most pleasant day.

The following are the scores :—

2ND BORDER REGIMENT.

	200	500	600	Total.
Pte. Hindle	28	32	33	93
Sergt. Christian	26	32	32	90
Pte. Stokoe	26	31	32	89
Corpl. Littlejohn	29	28	32	89
Pte. Bowers	30	30	25	85
Lce.-Sergt. Farrell	29	32	23	84
Pte. Moffat	26	28	29	83
Sergt. Jones	29	27	26	82
Pte. Eyes	26	30	21	77
Band Master Clear	26	21	23	70
				842

93RD HIGHLANDERS.

Pte. Burns	31	32	28	91
„ Chidley	26	29	29	84
„ Green	28	23	31	82
Lce.-Corpl. McLachlan ...	29	26	27	82
Drum-Major Walsh	28	30	24	82
Pte. Miller	29	27	24	80
„ Hollands	28	26	24	78
„ Ward	24	27	22	73
„ Lillywhite (4045) ...	26	22	23	71
„ Edwards	26	21	6	53
				776

2ND EAST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT.

Band-Sergt. Clark	31	32	29	92
Pte. Dowsey	27	33	25	88
Sergt.-Dr. Gordon	29	31	27	87
Pte. Snigun	31	30	24	85
Pte. Brent	26	31	23	80
Pte. Hartley	27	22	26	75
Lce.-Corpl. Sayawell ...	17	25	32	74
„ Campbell ...	23	25	24	72
Pte. Burton	20	27	20	67
Band Master Edwards ...	13	17	4	34
				754

Sentry (giving over his orders)—"In case o' fire or any onusual deesturbance tae alarm ta camp."

Arrangements for the March.

I think masell 'twould suit the twa
(Jock would na' hae sae far tae fa')
If Jock would try a heel an' toe
An' hand the cuddy ower tae Joe.

Inter-Company Football League, 1899-1900.

—o—

"*A*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—Played on the 4th. The first match after festivities resulting in a win to "H" by one goal to *nil*.

"*C*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Played on the 5th. An even and excellent game. "F" managed to score just before time, thus winning. Scores "*F*" one goal "C" *nil*.

"*B*" v. "*D*" *Company.*—Played on the 8th January.

"*E*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Played on the 10th. The match consisted chiefly in alternately kicking for goal, and the "Unionists" missed their turn a few times. Score "E" 3 goals, "G" 7 goals.

"*A*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Played on the 11th. "F" still showed deterioration, and could only draw with the score of one goal each.

"*B*" v. "*E*" *Company.*—Billed for the 12th instant, but "B" were apparently somewhat indisposed after a field day, and did not put in an appearance. "E" put the ball through their opponent's goal, and won.

"*F*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Played on the 13th. Would have been an excellent match, but "F" were handicapped by the loss of their Captain, and their centre half was also hardly fit. Scores "F" 2 goals "G" 4 goals.

"*C*" v. "*H*" *Company.*—Played on the 15th, and after a fast and even game "C" remained victorious by one goal to *nil*.

"*D*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Played on the 16th, the result was as much of a surprise as the game between "F" and "H," as "D" played up wonderfully all over the field. The result was a draw, two goals each.

"*D*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—The following day "D" were not in equally good form and so "F" who in disgust played their "puggal" team managed to secure a victory by 2 goals to one.

"*C*" v. "*G*" *Company.*—Probably the most exciting match of the League took place on the 18th. "G" had an unbroken record with one draw, while "C" had been once defeated. The game was a very fast and even one throughout, both teams doing their utmost; "G" scored in the first half and crossed over with the lead, keeping the advantage to the end despite the strenuous efforts of "C's" forwards to equalise. "G" won a good match and assured themselves in the possession of the clock. Scores "G" 1 goal, "C" *nil*.

With this match the League came to an abrupt conclusion, the few remaining matches so far not having taken place.

: o :

Inter-Company Cricket Tournament.

—o—

SEMI-FINAL.

"*A*" v. "*B*" *Company.*—Played on Thursday, 18th. "B" being victorious by 28 runs on the first innings.

Scores.—"*B*" *Company.*—Lieutenant B. A. Harvey 19, retired 15; Lieutenant O. C. Herbert 39, 8; Sergeant Stonor 14, 22; Private Stevenson 2, 33; Mossman 1, did not bat; Lillywhite 3, 4; Russell 2, 12; Logan 0, 0; Henry 0, 0; Johnson not out 0, did not bat. Lance-Corporal Newell 0, not out 2; extras 3, 7; Totals 83, 103 for 7 wickets. "*A*" *Company* Lieutenant J. Kennedy 19, Private W. Allen 10, McEwan 0, Hansen 3, J. Allen 0, Dick 4, Sheridan 10, Brown 3, D. Campbell 0, Dale not out 0, Britton 6, extras 6, total 55.

"*C*" v. "*F*" *Company.*—Played on the 10th January, resulting in a win for the right wing representatives by an innings and 103 runs. For the losers 2nd-Lieutenant Maclean, who went on towards the finish, in four overs

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took 4 wickets for 7 runs. On the other side Sergeant Beavis secured 13 wickets for 21 runs. Scores:—"C": 2nd-Lieutenant J. P. Villiers Stuart 41, Corporal Mahoney, 9, Kelley 1, Private Johnson 19, Captain F. L. Jackson 21, Sergeant Waeters 8, Beavis 37, Privates Geddes 0, French, 4, Gibson 13, Colour-Sergeant Gilmour not out 2, Extras 15, Total 170. "F": Private Edwards 1, 6; Sergeant Durnan, 0, 0; 2nd-Lieutenant A. J. H. Maclean 2, 0; Lieutenant Elphinstone 0, not out 4; Lance-Corporal Buchanan 0, 0; Privates Atherton 4, 3; Lumsden 3, 0; Corporal Reid. 6, 0; Privates Miller 0, 0; Wainwight 20 0; Elliott not out 0, 7; Extras 2; Totals 38, 29.

—:o:—

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT there wis a somewhat excitin' finish tae the New Year festivities.

That the excitement wis o' very catchin'.

That the orderly piper came armed.

That he forgot tae play the fa' in tho'.

That it hears o' a new patent water-bottle in "B" Company.

That the Paisley weavers or no worn oot yet.

That it believes Oom Paul is about tae resign.

That it is in favour o' the King o' Grease.

That it also believes the services o' the Bannu Licht Horse hae been placed at the disposal o' the Imperial Government.

That a certain individual wanted a curious operation performed on his trews.

That the sports wis no sic a great success regimentally.

That it take a fair proportion of the prize money certainly.

That it would liked tae hae seen mair than the money cam' tae the auld corps.

That it scored at the "arteestic" events ony hoo.

That the "Alarm Posts" wis weel enouch.

That the "Physical Drill" wis mebbe no sae bad.

That the last event o' the first afternoon wis no a sicht for sair e'en.

That it never thoucht sic a thing could hae been possible.

That "those laugh longest wha laugh last" is mebbe true, but that it's no a pleasant thoucht.

That it canna' say mair tho' it would like tae.

That it is never tae late tae mend

That experience should surely, in time, teach.

That it will soon be awa' tae the hills again.

That it will be a change being a' thegither again for the summer.

That nineteen hundred should be made a record year in a' respects.

That the centenary or whitever ye may ca' it should be made the maist o'.

That nae doubt it wull.

Concert at Shahjehanpur.

—o—

Elated by their previous success Shahjahanpur's small winter detachment organised another concert for the 24th January. This time the entertainment had a purpose other than the dispelling of dull care and ennui. It was to still further swell the fund being raised for those who might be left widows or fatherless through the bitter struggle for British supremacy in South Africa. The object was deserving of the most liberal support and in this the management were not disappointed. Shahjahanpur civil and military made an almost ominous response, the many rows of reserved seats being booked at an early date. Our own representative, who journeyed down from Bareilly purposely to be present, was fortunately able to secure, after the display he says, of much ingenuity, the last available seat, but he is apparently so satisfied with having contributed his modest mite towards the deserving object of the entertainment that, except for the programme, which was extracted, some few days after his return, from the depths of the pocket of the garment worn by him on the occasion, very little information is obtainable.

From the programme which follows it can be seen that the entertainment must have been a most excellent one, the pick of the local talent being reinforced by the Bandmaster, Drum-Major, Pipe-Major, several members of the band and a few others from head-quarters.

PROGRAMME.

Part I.

Overture ... ... The Band.
Song ... ... "Afton Water."
Private DAVIE.
Song ... ... "Mrs. Murphy."
Sergeant P. LEECH, CAMERONIANS.
Song ... ... "The Vicar of Bray."
Staff Sergeant CHUTTLEBERG, Commt. Dept.
Bassoon Solo ... ... "Lucy Long."
Drum-Major WALSH.
Encore ... ... "A little bit off the top."
Song ... ... "The Thorn."
Mrs. CHUTTLEBERG.
Song (character) ... "The Sour We Man."
Drummer BURNS.
Song ... ... "The Minstrel Boy."
Boy GRIGOR CAMPBELL.
Song ... ... "Whisper and I shall hear."
Private STRACHAN.
Highland Fling ... ... Lance-Corporal LYNCH.
Encore ... ... Sword Dance "Gillie Callum."
Song (character) ... ... "Sons of the Sea."
Mr. WRIGHT, O. & R Railway.
Encore ... ... "The Seventh Royal Fusiliers."

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Part II.

Song ... ... "Jack's Yarn."
Private ARMOUR.

Song ... ... "The Lounder."
Sergeant P. LEECH.

Song ... ... "Scottish Blue Bells."
Mrs. EWAN.

Song ... ... "My Pretty Jane."
Schoolmaster Gover.

Song (character) ... ... "Her Nainsel'."
Drum-Major WALSH.

Cornet Solo ... ... "The Lost Chord."
Lace-Corporal MCLACHLAN.

Song ... ... "Duncan Dougall Mackintosh."
Corporal GLASS.

Club-swinging ... ... Boy ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL.

Song ... ... "Jean McDade."
Drummer Burns.

Song ... ... "For Old Times Sake"
Private J. CLARKE.

Pianist ... . Bandmaster DAVIES.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

—o—

Billiard Tournament at Shahjahanpur.

—o—

Played on 11th Jan. with following result:—

FIRST ROUND.

Pte. Crawford, 'D' (30) beat Pte. Getchell, 'A' (20) .....100 to 78
„ Davie, 'D' (20) „ „ Dunn, 'C' (10).....100 to 70
„ Sutherland, 'F' (10) „ „ McKee, 'H' (15).....100 to 76
„ Niven, 'E' (35) „ „ Hewson, 'E' (40).....100 to 97
„ Ralston, 'B' (45) „ „ Atherton, 'F' (scratch) 100 to 86
„ Henderson, 'G' scratch „ „ Peacock, 'D' (45) . .. 100 to 92
„ McIntyre, 'B' (10) „ „ McArther, 'G' (10).....100 to 89

SECOND ROUND.

Pte. Ralston, beat Pte. Niven... ... ... 100 to 93
„ Henderson, „ „ Crawford ... ... 100 to 78
„ McIntyre, „ „ Sutherland ... ... 100 to 84
„ Davie a bye.

SEMI-FINAL ROUND.

Pte. Ralston, beat Pte. Henderson ... ... 100 to 92
„ McIntyre „ „ Davie ... ... 100 to 51

FINAL ROUND.

Pte. Ralston (1st) beat Pte. McIntyre (2nd) ... ... 100 to 87

PRIZES.

Pte. Ralston (1st Prize) ... ... Rs. 5
„ McIntyre (2nd „) ... ... „ 2
„ Henderson (Biggest Break) ... ... „ 2

There wis some splendid movements
At Gen'ral's Inspection,
An' the usual improvements,
For Gen'ral's Inspection,
There's nae mistake 'twis glorious beer,
I've heard it was the same last year;
The same thing micht occur, I fear,
Next Gen'ral's Inspection.

I hardly kent my khaki steak,
On Gen'ral's Inspection,
It must hae got a special bake
For Gen'ral's Inspection.
I thoucht the cook wis weary lookin'
I speired o' him hoo long it took him
He said "ah sahib, "um all night cook him"
For Gen'ral's Inspection.

At the Dry Canteen the day before
That Gen'ral's Inspection
A crood wis waitin' at the door
Fearless o' infection.
Efterwards I heard them say
They suffered awfu' in that fray
But they had tae see that cheese away
Till efter the inspection.

CAEN MOR.

Ninety-third Calendar for March 1900.

—o—

1 Th. Halted at Shahjahanpur *en route* from Oudh jungles to Sabathu, 1859; delayed three days on account of weather.
2 F.
3 S. Head-quarters ("E," "F," "G," and "H," Coys.) Bareilly for Chaubattia, 1899.
Lieut.-Col. Halkett relinquished command, 1810; to 104th Foot.
4 S. George Johnstone Lieut.-Col. 1810.
5 M. Arrived Halifax from England after bad passage, 1838.
6 Tu.
7 W. Lieut.-Col. Andrew Creagh to 81st Foot 1822r. Henry Milling, Lieut.-Col. 1822 (never joined).
Arrived Malta, 1854.
8 Th. Disembarked Malta, 1854 (Minie Rifle issued).
Head-quarters arrived Chaubattia, 1898.
9 F. Capture of Martinière College, final attack upon Lucknow, 1858.
Arrived Rawalpindi from Umballa, 1860.
Surgeon-Major William Munro, M.D., C.B., left after 13 years in regiment to take up appointment of D. I. G. of Hospitals, 1867.
10 S. Lieut.-General William Wemyss Colonel of Regiment, 1850.
11 S. Begum Kothee, Lucknow, stormed, 1858; 2 officers, 13 non-commissioned officers and men killed, 2 officers, 45 non-commissioned officers and men wounded.
12 M.
13 Tu.
14 W.
15 Th.
16 F. William Wemyss, Lieut.-Col. 1815.
17 S.
18 S.
19 M. Peshawar District Assault-at-Arms, 1896, won "Tug-of-war" pulling Devons, and Signalling Competition.
20 Tu. Peshawar District Assault-at-Arms, 1896; 2nd day; pulled "Buffs" in final.
Left Shorncliffe for Dublin, 1876.
21 W. Severe street fighting in Lucknow, 1858.
22 Th.
23 F. Duncan Macgregor Lieut.-Col. 1826, *vice* Lieut.-Col. Sir Chas. Gordon to half-pay.
24 S. Annual inspection at Bareilly by Brigadier-General Clifford, 1898.
25 S. Troopship *Himalaya* with 93rd arrived off Leith from Bombay, 1870.
Annual inspection (2nd day), 1898.
26 M. Do. (3rd day), 1898.
27 T. Final capture of Lucknow, 1858.
28 W. Disembarked Leith, 1870; head-quarters, to Aberdeen, Detachments to Perth and Stirling.
29 Th. 2nd Battalion, 93rd, left Aberdeen for Gravesend, 1814.
Left Gibraltar for Portsmouth, 1881.
30 F. 2nd Battalion, 93rd, Aberdeen for Gravesend, 1814.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

EXTRACTS FROM LONDON GAZETTE.

Dated 29th December 1899.

To be Captains.—Lieutenant K. F. C. Marshall, *vice* Cameron, seconded, dated 1st October 1899; Lieutenant J. Campbell to complete establishment, dated 12th December 1899.

To be Lieutenants.—2nd-Lieutenant H. M. Thomson, *vice* Courtenay seconded, dated 24th October 1899; 2nd-Lieutenant J. Kennedy, *vice* Tweedie promoted, dated 24th November 1899; 2nd-Lieutenant O. C. Herbert, *vice* Macdonald promoted, dated 12th December 1899.

PROMOTIONS.

To be Corporal.—No. 5842, Lance-Corporal R. Glass, "E" Company, *vice* Rankin to Commissariat Department, dated 1st December 1899.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Sergeant.—No. 2479, Corporal D. Gordon "A" Company, dated 1st January; No. 3628, Corporal F. A. Poole, "G" Company, dated 8th January.

To Commissariat Department.—No. 3596, Corporal A Rankin, "A" Company, to a permanent vacancy in the Commissariat Department from 1st December 1899; No. 5501, Corporal J. Houston, "D" Company, has been appointed to act in the Commissariat Department with effect from 23rd December 1899.

To be Lance-Corporal.—No. 4868, Private H. Gifford "A" Company, dated 20th January.

To be Drummer.—No. 5844, Private J. Burns, "F" Company.

PAY OF RANK.

To be Paid Lance-Corporal.—No. 5128, Lance-Corporal F. Cairns, "E" Company.

TRANSFERS.

From Dorsetshire Regiment.—Private Chas. Painter, and posted to "B" Company.

From "E" to "A" Company.—No. 5842, Corporal R. Glass.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 3d. per diem:—

"D" Company.

No. 2035, Private E. Chidley.

Granted 2d. per diem:—

"A" Company.

No. 4975, Pte. W. A. Clarke. | No. 4978, Pte. A. Dale.

"B" Company.

No. 4979, Pte. M. Mossman. | No. 4981, Pte. P. Malone.

"G" Company.

No. 4389, Pte. K. Mackay. | No. 4976, Pte. F. W. Forbes,

"H" Company.

No. 4834, Pte. D. Carr. | No. 4784, Pte. W. Strachan.

Restored 2d. per diem:—

"E" Company.

No. 3588, Pte. W. Trotter.

Granted 1d. per diem:—

"E" Company.

No. 6418, Pte. J. McKenzie. | No. 6429, Pte. R. Turnbull.

"G" Company.

„ 6357, „ G. McMillan. | No. 5896, „ J. Adams.

"H" Company.

No. 6369, Pte. J. Robertson. | No. 6415, Pte. J. Craskie.

„ 6392, „ C. Rarity. | „ 6351, „ J. Livingston.

No. 6427, Pte. H. Reid.

Restored 1d. per diem:

"A" Company.

No. 5189, Pte. H. Allan. | No. 5969, Pte. J. Thomson.

"B" Company.

„ 5504, „ G. Stevenson. | No. 2936, „ J. Robinson.

"D" Company.

„ 5248, „ J. Orr. | No. 5129, „ H. McLean.

"E" Company.

„ 5021, „ J. Duncan. | No. 5751, „ J. Marquis.

No. 5735, T. McManus.

"F" Company.

No. 2922, Pte. J. Bertram.

"G" Company.

No. 5589, Pte. J. McLean.

CERTIFICATES.

Granted Assistant Armourer's Certificates—

No. 6213, Private A. Campbell, "E" Company.

Granted certificates from the Army Veterinary School, Umballa.

No. 5454, Private D. Ritchie, "E" Company—"Passed."

„ 5553, „ W. McKay, "C" Company—"Passed with credit."

ATTAINED THE AGE OF 18 YEARS.

No. 5947, Boy (Bandsman) A. Morrison, "A" Company.

SERVICE RESTORED.

In accordance with para. 1842, Queen Regulations,

Service for feited by—

No. 5258, Private P. Carson, "G" Company.

BIRTHS.

DARROCH.—At Ranikhet on the 6th November 1899 the wife of Captain Duncan Darroch of a son—Duncan.

MASKELL.—At Shahjahanpur on the 20th January 1900 the wife of Corporal Maskell "B" Company, of a daughter Eugene May.

JEFFREY.—At Ranikhet on the 8th November 1899 the wife of Sergeant A. Jeffrey, "D" Company, of a daughter—Agnes Harkness.

DEATH.

MCCULLOCH.—At the Station Hospital, Ranikhet, on 30th December 1899, No. 5893, Private J. McCulloch, "G" Company.

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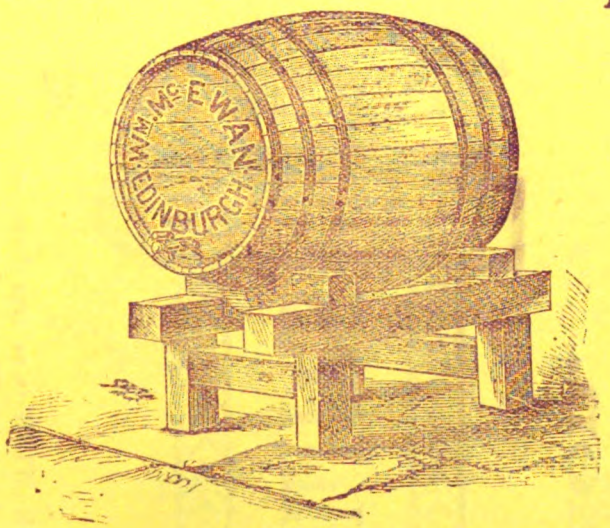

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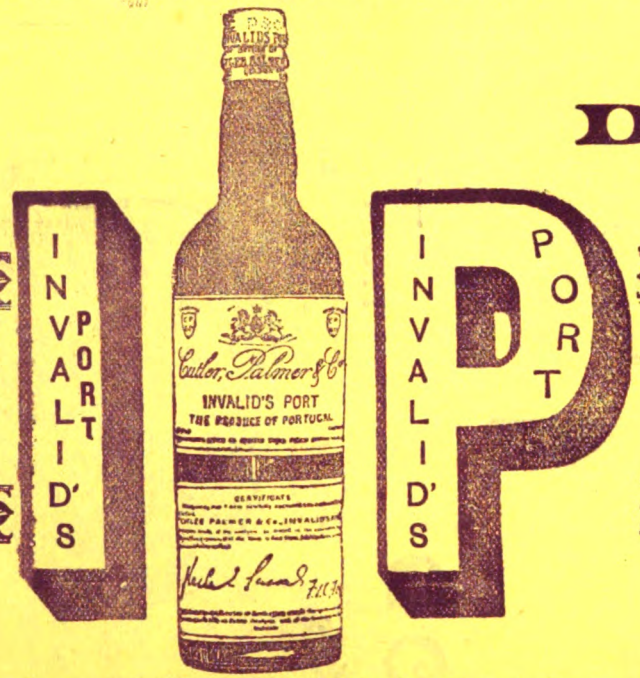

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Mar 1906

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 11—Vol. V. RANIKHET,—MARCH 1900. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE annual inspection this year was early in the month of February. The first day, Friday, 2nd, was devoted to drill, inspection of camp and outpost work, from which the battalion did not return until about 7 P. M. On Saturday, 3rd, there was more drill in the morning, followed by practice on the range; in the afternoon there was the usual ceremonial parade concluding with the march past.

* * * * *

On the 3rd also the Border Regiment, who, as previously mentioned, had been driven in by stress of weather from their camp at Sirdarnagar, again essayed to complete their month's training. This time a somewhat sandy site near the village of Hurroo Nagla had been selected for their camp, and they managed to complete their term of banishment without further mishap. They returned to Bareilly and civilisation on the 20th, the day previous to headquarter's departure for Ranikhet. On the 21st they relieved the remaining half battalion of all garrison duties, and on the following morning the members of their Sergeants' Mess invited our sergeants to a farewell breakfast before letting them entrain for Kathgodam, so our "second party" took quite kindly thoughts of Bareilly away with them.

On the previous day the Rohilkund Volunteer Rifles had had their annual inspection, and the usual inspection Ball followed in the evening.

* * * * *

On the first day of the week following General's inspection there was a somewhat protracted double-barrelled field day of not a particularly interesting character. First the battalion rendezvoused at the brickfields, and assisted by the Native Infantry attacked the Borders in the direction of the ford at Hurroo Nagla. Then our force returned to its rendezvous, and waited until the enemy had taken up a fresh

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position, this time east of the Nakutia Nullah on the Shahjahanpur road, when we attacked again.

* * * * *

Major Alexander Wilson, who left us at Umballa at the end of 1893, has been promoted to command the first Battalion. His many friends in the Ninety-third wish him good-luck and a safe return from South Africa.

Captain R. L'E. McKerrell has got a vacant Majority. Messrs. A. H. Maclean, J. Johnston Stewart and F. G. Newall are Captains.

* * * * * *

Temporary charge of the British Infantry Rifle range at Bareilly owing to the Borders being out in camp was an opportunity not to be lost.

On the 9th and 10th February a "Wappenschaw," to shoot for some surplus prize money remaining over from the annual course, was held, and the two days were very busily spent. The first day was devoted to collective practice competitions and to individual firing at two hundred yards; the second day the individual firing was continued at five hundred yards, and there was also "Pool."

* * * * *

On the 12th and 13th February also the range was in requisition, when a half battalion on each day fired by companies the remaining rounds allotted to the disposal of the Commanding Officer.

* * * * *

On the 15th the Sergeants seized the opportunity, having challenged their brother non-commissioned officers of the Border Regiment, to a trial of skill with the rifle. The day was a particularly unpleasant one, and the best shooting regiment in India were only able to secure second place. Our sergeants were "at home" on the range in more senses than one. They were without the services of their best shot too.

* * * * *

The Cricket Clock has again been lost and won, once more returning to its old quarters with "B" Company. The result was somewhat a surprise to both teams, as the winners were without the services of their two redoubtable bowlers.

"C" Company have this season been somewhat unfortunate in their sporting efforts. A little better luck would have given them the Football Clock, whilst the cricket trophy seemed almost within their grasp. Last year they were also the runners up in the Cricket Tournament, but were then beaten in the final by "G" Company.

* * * * *

Few of our reader probably knew, and we quite forgot to mention it at the time, that "A Battle Prayer" in the January number was from the pen of Lord Archibald Campbell, written upon receipt of the news in Scotland of the disaster to the Highland Brigade at Magersfontein. A contemporary, we regret to notice, has utilised it without an acknowledgment of any kind.

* * * * *

The Black Watch are again the winners of the Presidency Athletic Association Shield competed for annually at Calcutta.

* * * * *

The yearly competition in field cookery took place before leaving Bareilly. There was again the usual difficulty in deciding the excellence of each competitor's appetising preparation, and so the equal division of the prize allowance became the only solution of the difficulty.

* * * * *

"The old order changeth—." "G" Company (Major Aitken) has for some time headed the battalion on parade, "F," "A," "H," "B," "D," "E" and "C" Companies following in the order named. It took a few parades to settle down to the change; every one had become so used to companies in alphabetical order.

* * * * *

On Saturday, 17th ultimo, after the usual weekly camp inspection the large expanse of canvas which had afforded us shelter for the last three months or so began under the ready hand of numerous fatigue parties to gradually disappear. To strike and pack over one hundred "E. P." tents added to some twenty "Staff Sergeants'" was by no means a small undertaking, but by the 18th most of the tents had been struck, and on the following day were being

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despatched to the Arsenal at Allahabad until they might again be requisitioned for.

A smaller camp of field service tents from the mobilisation stores, pitched on what had been the football ground, accommodated the battalion for the last few days of its stay in Bareilly.

* * * *

The Shahjahanpur detachment under Lieutenant H. M. Thomson marched into Bareilly on the 19th ultimo, rejoining head-quarters to proceed to the hills. The detachment left Shahjahanpur on the 16th, the barracks there with their departure being, except for a few details left in hospital and some tenants in the married quarters, left entirely vacant. All mobilisation stores had previously been withdrawn and sent to Ranikhet. For the present Captain Marshall remains in the capacity of Station Staff Officer and Cantonment Magistrate.

* * * *

The battalion moved to the hills in two parties. Head-quarters under Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell consisted of "A," "B," "F" and "G" Companies and the Band. The second party under Major Stanley Paterson was composed of "C," "D," "E" and "H" Companies, with pipes and drums. This somewhat unusual arrangement of half battalions was necessary owing to the superior strength of the left-half battalion companies, to whom, owing to having spent the summer of 1899 in Chaubattia, the two last drafts (Trooping Season 1898-99) had been allotted. No drafts from home having so far arrived this trooping season the right-half battalion companies are just now proportionately weak, and to all appearances they are likely to remain so for some considerable time. But this, as Rudyard Kipling observes, "is a another story."

"D" Company as an advanced party trained to Kathgodam on the night of the 20th; head-quarters followed on the morning of the 21st, and the second party left Bareilly on the 22nd. The first party marched from Ranibagh to the Brewery camp on the latter date, reaching Ranikhet on the 26th; the second party arrived at their destination on the following day.

The roads owing to the early move to the hills were in excellent condition, quite free from dust making marching most pleasant. The marches were easy ones, and the usual "half-way house," except on the last day's march, was dispensed with, and although it was eight o'clock each morning before marching off, the new camp was reached long before midday. Heavy showers of rain on the evenings of the 24th and 25th somewhat marred the pleasures of camp life, but fortunately the showers were not of long duration, and had blown away on both occasions before the sounding of "tattoo."

* * * * *

At Bhowalli and Rattighat the head-quarter party were treated by the Band to an *impromptu* open air promenade concert in the vicinity of the Sergeants' Mess; only march music was, to coin a word, discoursable, but the programme seemed to be greatly enjoyed by every one, and the band were not allowed to go away wholly unrecompensed for their trouble.

At Bamshaon the second party were entertained to a bon-fire concert by the A. T. A. at which Major Paterson presided.

* * * *

The drums and pipes were divided into two bands, which played alternately along the road. The second party were thus never without martial music to inspire them. There was only one big drum, but the transitional period, during the time this was being transferred from one band to another, was filled in by some neat stick work by the side drummers the effect being decidedly quaint and pleasing.

* * * * *

Ranikhet! Rambling Ranikhet it might not inappropriately be termed by any one of an alliterative turn of mind; somewhat more piquant adjectives have been suggested, but from an old-fashioned, and, it is to be hoped, pardonable, conservatism we refrain from making use of them.

It is hardly fair perhaps to be too brutally critical just at the present time, but certainly the absolute necessity for having occupied such a large amount of space in providing for the accommodation of one lone-lorn battalion does not become immediately apparent, and we very

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much fear were the person or persons responsible for the design of Ranikhet cantonment to pay a visit to any of the less fortunate divisions of the battalion at the present time, he or they would not hear anything particularly to his or their advantage.

* * * *

For the information of those who have had some previous acquaintance with Ranikhet, and it may even interest those of our readers who have had no acquaintance and want none, it may be mentioned that the following is the distribution of the battalion :—"A" and "G" Companies have the most central and convenient position half way up the hill near the institutes. Further up the hill, on the "upper square," where take place all the minor parades to which non-commissioned officers and marked men are heirs, and where orderly sergeants parade at meal hours' retreat and tattoo, is "E" Company and the band, drums and pipes. "E" Company's bungalow is a two-storied edifice known locally as the "double-decker," and it also contains a section of "C" Company, whilst in dungeon-like lower rooms at its northern extremity are the stores of the quarter-master's department. The band, &c., have one of the usual single-storied bungalows, but it is newer apparently and of a much more convenient design than those occupied by companies. On the "Pinnacle" is the remainder of "C," together with "B" and "F" Companies. The "Pinnacle" is, as its name implies, the highest point of Ranikhet, and crowning its summit is an octagonal needle-like pillar of rough hewn stone some twenty feet high, the lower portion of which is protected by a verandah. A casual glance at this column may suggest to budding Pickwicks something of great value to the antiquarian world, whilst their curiosity may perhaps be further excited by discovering that let into the north-west face of the pillar just above the level of the ground is a stone bearing the following mystic inscription somewhat rudely carved :—

H. A. S. L.
K.
6303

Really nothing is revealed by the curious legend beyond the fact that the "Pinnacle" is at a height above the sea-level at Karachi of 6,303 feet.

The two remaining Companies, "D" and "H," have managed to find themselves somewhere in the vicinity of the hospital and miles from any other part of barracks, including the guard room. It's a poor heart that never rejoices!

* * * *

Before leaving for the hills Sergeant Hay, who during last summer was one of the Sergeant Instructors at the School of Musketry, Pachmari, received the medal presented for the highest score made in the annual Inter-School Rifle Match. The obverse of the medal bears the following inscription :—"Bengal School of Musketry, 2nd Class, 1899, winner of Inter-School Rifle Match, 500, 600, 800 yards," whilst on the reverse are the names of the winning team with scores, Sergeant Hay's name of course heading the list with 95.

* * * *

For the information of those who don't know, it may be remarked that our barracks at Ranikhet are more correctly known as "Kumpur," that being the name of the main hill upon which the majority of the bungalows are situated.

* * * * *

In "Home News" of last December number mention was made of Captain McNeill being away shooting in America. He has apparently returned safe and sound from his trip, for we are just in receipt from him of an account of one of his best days. Captain McNeill writes from Dublin, and in a short note accompanying his MS. quite naïvely explains that it is sent "in case you are in want of an article for the regimental paper," and also suggests certain curtailments "if the article is too long." In want of an article! Too long indeed!! Let *it all* come!!! Little does he wot of the trials and troubles of editorship. We are extremely obliged to him for the account of what must have been an exciting incident in his shikar trip, and hope that he will not forget that we are always,

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with respect to "copy," more or less in indigent circumstances.

Captain McNeill mentions in his letter that he is in charge of the details left behind by the Ninety-first, about 330 men all told, including 150 men who have just come home from Gibraltar, where they were, as mentioned in "Home News" previously referred to, attached to the 2nd Battalion, Cameron Highlanders.

* * * * *

Reading from time to time in the daily papers accounts of "Magersfontein," it is impossible to suppress a feeling of chilly uncanniness, a feeling of the supernatural almost, as the terrible details of that fatal December day of last year are brought to light. Towards the end, when the demoralisation of all that remained of the nearly decimated Highland Brigade must have been complete, a piper or so still possessed, accord ing to all accounts, sufficient steadiness of nerve to finger a chanter. It was a dash of the right thing, and pleasant re-action to learn through the medium of an illustrated paper that Corporal James Mackay of our first battalion marched up and down playing the regimental march past of the Ninety-first, "The Campbells are comin'," within full view of the enemy, and within range of their merciless rifles.

* * * * *

Do they now! "Pathans come from Peshawar, Panjabi Muhammadans come from Rawalpindi, Sikhs come from Amritsar, Dogras from Sialkot, Jats and Hindustani Muhammadans come from Dehli, Hindus come from Lucknow, and Gurkhas from Gorakhpur." Very good, indeed, "White Horse." But you'll know better when you have been in India a little longer, and have travelled a bit.

Oh yes! Ninety-third Highlanders come from Sutherland by the way!! At least they did before the introduction of the "territorial" system.

—:o:—

Recommended for E. P.

—o—

Ye sing of the Eighteenth Royal Irish Brigade,
Ye boast of the men who were never afraid,—
But braver than all of the bold undismayed,
Was the creature who yelled "Pull them into the shade.",

Inspection.

—o—

The annual inspection of the Battalion by Brigadier-General Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, K. C. B., C. M. G., took place on the 2nd and 3rd of February. On the first day operations commenced by the usual drill parade at 8-30 a.m., at which officers were called out to command the battalion in turn. The G. O. C. and staff then devoted their attention to the enormous pile of books dealing with every branch of regimental economy, which is always produced on these occasions. This was got through quickly, and the Brigadier had time to see two companies in marching order and to walk round the camp before 1 p. m., at which hour he proceeded to lunch at the Officers' Mess.

Immediately after lunch "C" Company started for the fort to perform the time-honoured escalading drill, while the rest of the battalion started for Harroo Nagla, and took up an outpost position on the plain north of the village facing east and guarding the line of the Nakutia nullah. The General arrived to inspect the line about half past four, and it was dark before we got back to camp.

The next morning we began with physical drill, not as a battalion, according to previous custom, but by companies, two of whom, "D" and "F," were selected to perform the practices separately under their own officers. We then ran a thousand yards, and all managed as usual to stay the distance. The scene then changed to the B. I. Rifle range, where "G" Company did shelter trench exercise. "B" Company fired at vanishing targets, and the officers and Staff Sergeants did their revolver shooting. At 4 p. m. came the "Master Tailor's" parade, at which several distinguished members of the regiment appeared, as is their custom, for the only time in the year. "A" Company was led by its Captain, a wonderful treat now-a-days. The march past was, we believe, good; in fact a friend who was stationed at the saluting base said he had never seen us march past better. The General made a remark or two to the Colonel after we had re-formed quarter column, but the writer was too far away to catch them, so we can only hope they expressed satisfaction. At all events we believe that no severe strictures on any branch of the regimental economy were made, either then or since, and in fact the Brigadier is said to have expressed his opinion that there was even an improvement, generally, since last year. Let us hope and strive that there may be a still further one in the next twelve months.

—:o:—

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Sergeants' Shooting Match.

—o—

BORDER REGIMENT *v.* 93RD HIGHLANDERS.

The victory of our Sergeants on the 15th February was almost as unexpected as it was gratifying. The challenge emanated from the members of our Sergeants' Mess who have for some considerable time been anxious to return the few little courtesies to which they have been indebted during their stay in Bareilly to their brother non-commissioned officers of the Border Regiment. The Bareilly Rifle Range being in temporary regimental charge, a shooting match afforded an excellent excuse for a display of hospitality.

The 15th being a Thursday firing commenced early, and the match was concluded before lunch, which was served about 2 o'clock in a tope adjacent to the range. The day was unfortunately a very boisterous one and not conducive to accurate shooting, as a perusal of the scores will show. The Sergeant-Drummer of the Border Regiment was credited with the best score on the range, a capital 91, Sergeant Johnstone being our highest with 90. There were several other good scores on both sides, but the majority found the longest distance a decidedly difficult one, clouds of dust occasionally obscuring the targets from view. The visitors left early in the afternoon for their camp at Harroo Nagla, some three miles away, whilst "ours" after their most important duties as hosts returned to Bareilly, decidedly satisfied with the result of their venture. The scores were :—

93RD HIGHLANDERS.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
Sergeant Johnstone ...	30	31	29	90
Col.-Sergeant Ditcham	33	33	23	89
Sergeant Crawford ...	28	31	26	85
„ Tyndall ...	29	33	21	83
Col.-Sergeant Mitchell	32	29	21	82
Sergeant Clarke ...	29	27	24	80
„ Miller ...	25	29	24	78
Q.-M. S. Robertson ...	27	30	21	78
Sergeant Soutar ...	33	25	19	77
„ Marks ...	25	21	28	74
Col.-Sergeant Smith ...	29	23	16	68
Sergeant Arnott ...	25	24	18	67
		Total		951

BORDER REGIMENT.

Sergt.-Drummer Connors	30	28	33	91
Q.-M. S. Hurley ...	26	33	29	88
Sergeant Robertson ...	30	32	25	87
„ Gardiner ...	30	26	26	82
Col.-Sergeant Gould ...	28	29	23	80
Sergeant Watters ...	30	26	23	79
„ Farrell ...	31	22	25	78
„ Jones ...	29	18	29	76
„ Wilkinson ...	25	29	19	73
„ Mortimer ...	27	22	19	68
„ Brown ...	27	25	11	63
„ Vickers ...	25	14	19	58
				923

A Lucky Fifth of November.

—o—

I had been after Wapiti for some time, and had tried more than one locality, but luck had so far been dead against me. First of all they were not to be found on the ground I first visited, and I was afterwards told that this district, though once good, had been pretty well shot out for some years. Then, after shifting camp and getting to where Wapiti undoubtedly were, judging by their tracks, the wind was never steady, and the snow was so badly crusted, that it was simply impossible to move quietly. This was well exemplified on the 5th November, which was dull and cloudy, with a cutting wind cold enough "to freeze the gates of Hell," as my guide put it. In the morning we saw a small lot of about ten or twelve cows, and one small bull which was not worth shooting. In the afternoon we went up to the top of a low ridge to try small wooded "pocket" just on the other side of the summit, a spot my guide had great faith in, and where, he told me, he had seen several good bulls killed. Though the wind was, for once, all right, we had the bad luck to "jump" no less than three bulls in this place; one of them had a very nice head which we just managed to get a glimpse of as he went off in the thick timber. This was simply and solely due to the hard crust on the surface of the snow: do what we could it was impossible to avoid breaking through it about two steps out of three. The October snowfall that year had been unusually heavy, and the last day of the storm had finished up with some hours of sleet and rain. This had melted the surface of the snow, and as clear frosty weather succeeded the storm, the crust became so brittle that every step made a noise, while at the same time the snow was never frozen hard enough to support a man for two consecutive steps. Soon after scaring these bulls we came on the tracks of two others; and we had not followed these for more than 300 yards when we heard them crash away through the timber in front without even getting a glimpse of them. We still, however, stuck to the tracks, which led us out of the pocket, over the ridge and then down hill to the left, into thick timber. The snow was crusted here even worse than higher up, so we left the trail, as it was quite hopeless following it any further, for this would only have scared the Wapiti still more, and very possibly have frightened them right out of that neighbourhood. It was now getting well on in the afternoon, and I began to fear that our bad luck was going to send us home with another blank day, especially as we had gone over the best of the ground. Only

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one chance remained; and that was to work back along the ridge towards camp, keeping a sharp look out below, in the hope of seeing some Wapiti among the quaking-asp that fringed the bottom of the ridge, and divided the hill-side from the broken, sage-brush covered slope that ran down to the river, about half a mile distant. It was nearly 5 p.m. when we spotted three bulls grazing in the open, about 200 yards from the lower edge of the quaking-asp. They were too far off for our binoculars to tell us with any certainty what their horns were like, and we had to go some distance up-hill to get the big telescope from where we had left our horses when we began to follow the trail of the lost bulls we had scared. As soon as we got the telescope on them we saw that one had a good head with a wide spread, the horns of the other two being nothing out of the common. We now had to get down the steep hillside as fast as we could, dragging our horses after us, and a nice job they gave us, as the brutes kept hanging back, stopping, jerking on the reins, nearly pulling us off our legs, displacing loose stones and generally displaying every ounce of "cussedness" in their nature. Why is it, I wonder, that horses in general, no matter where or of what breed, almost invariably select the most awkward times to display an inborn obstinacy that would do credit to any pig? I can only hope that the recording angels did not catch all the blessings that were heaped on the heads of those contrary and cantankerous brutes during the ten minutes we spent lugging them down to the edge of the quaking-asp. At last we got into its welcome cover, where we were very nearly spotted by a cow Wapiti that had, of course, been invisible to us from above. As it was we had to spend about ten minutes lying flat on our faces, not daring to move, while all this time the precious light was every moment fading away. At last she moved on, and we got to the outer edge of the quaking-asp. The bulls were nowhere to be seen, but from this point the ground, which was here covered with sage-brush, rose in a gentle slope to a ridge about 200 yards off, beyond which it fell away into some broken hollows and low hillocks towards where we had last seen the Wapiti feeding. There was no time to be lost now, if I wanted to get a shot before it was too dark to see the foresight of my rifle. Accordingly we went at a run up the ridge, and, stopping just short of the top, peered cautiously over. Yes—there they were two of them at least (the other was nowhere in sight) about one hundred yards off, and a hundred feet below us the big head slightly nearer me and about three quarters broadside on. It was now too dark for me to distinguish which was the best head, and I would have had to chance it had not my guide brought the binoculars with him. They had both heard something, and were just about to move off, as they had stopped feeding and turned their heads up-hill towards us. I fired at once, taking the nearest of the two (which my guide told me carried the best horns) just behind the shoulder. He turned round and went off down-hill at his best pace, and I had just time to get in the left barrel as he disappeared into a hollow in front. I saw the bullet strike right underneath him, and thought I had missed. Life was now a blank, we had toiled all day, jumped several Wapiti without getting a chance at them, and now, when I had at last got a shot, the bad light had apparently lost me the best head I had yet seen. However, my guide cheered me by saying "you have broken his hind leg. I saw it swing as he topped the ridge. We had better get our horses now and follow them up; we may be able to run down the wounded one before he gets into heavy timber over the river, if not, he won't go far without lying down when once in the pines, and we will probably get him to-morrow morning." We accordingly went back to our horses, but by the time we had done so, mounted and set them going nearly a minute had elapsed since the Wapiti had disappeared from sight. Of course the beast I was riding would not gallop a yard. I had no spurs, and as I was carrying my rifle in one hand, had nothing in the way of a stick to beat him with. I dug my heels into him till my legs ached, but you might as well have ridden a rocking horse. All this time my guide was going like the wind about 300 yards ahead, and shouting to me to come on. After going about half a mile we saw one of the bulls by himself and a good long way ahead of us. Presently he slowed down and then stopped and looked back. I thought this was the wounded one, now getting done, the other having meanwhile got clean away, while out of our sight. However, he moved on again almost at once, and disappeared in some broken easy ground where there was not a sign of his tracks when we got up. Indeed it was by this time almost dark, and we had no option but to turn and ride back and try to find his tracks next morning. My guide was inclined to think that the bull we had seen was the unwounded one, and that the other had lain down in one of the numerous hollows that lay in the direction he had taken, adding "These elk are very tough, and one often goes away a deal harder hit than you think." We were riding slowly back on a line a little below that taken by the Wapiti in their flight, when my guide, pulling up, said "Say, can a man see at all with these glasses in the dark?" (It was now so dark that it was

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difficult to distinguish anything over 200 yards away.) "Yes," said I, "they help one a good deal." "There is something brown on that hill-side; I'll just have a look." "Guess it's a stone," he added after staring hard with the binoculars, "but we may as well ride round that way; see any way." I had also seen what he was looking at, but thought it was a stone. Getting a little near, P. (the guide) had another look and said "Darned if I can make it out even now; let's get closer." On we went till we got about 100 yards from the object. It was now getting very dark, and as I had not taken out the telescope I could only see a brown object which might or might not have been the bull. We now dismounted so as to get a steadier look with the glasses which P. again raised. A few moment's breathless suspense, and he said "Yes, that's your bull all right." We then left the horses and went up, I with my rifle on full cock in case he should be only wounded, but he was stone dead. When we came to cut him up the next morning, we found that my first shot had caught him fairly behind the shoulder a little low. It had then owing to the bull's being about 100 feet below me when I fired, passed downwards and slightly forwards, finally passing out through the breast bone between the forelegs, having gone through the lower part of the heart in its passage. The second shot, fired at him as he was going straight away and disappearing into the hollow in front, had passed from behind through the right buttock, smashing the thigh bone, and had then hit the ground under his belly as he ran, thus making me think I had missed him. Despite these wounds, one through the heart, this bull had run quite 600 yards before he fell; nor was there a drop of blood on his coat from the wounds, in fact it took us some little time to find the bullet-hole behind his shoulder. This shows the toughness of these big stags, as I was using a 500 Magnum Express firing a. 480 grain solid bullet. His horns were not very long, only $50\frac{5}{8}$ inches, but they spread 50 inches inside, $51\frac{1}{2}$ inches outside. I need hardly say that I returned home that night well pleased at the change of luck on 5th November. On the way back I was talking to P. about the way my horse had refused to exert himself when we were following up the wounded stag, and I expressed a regret that I was not wearing a pair of spurs, as that would have made a difference. "Yes," said P., "I guess it would; he would most probably have bucked you off" I admitted that in that case it was, perhaps, just as well I was not wearing them.

M. McNEILL.

—:o:—

For Queen, for Love, for Home.

—o—

Honour the gallant dead,
On mountain steep and plain;
Their life blood freely shed
That liberty might reign.

Honour their leaders brave,
Who fell as Britons fall;
Courting a soldier's grave,
At Queen and country's call.

Honour the fearless hearts,
Who fell on every hand;
Enacting heroes' parts,
No call for stern command.

Honour the father brave,
Too proud to bare his wound;
His life-light in the grave,
His only hope beyond.

Grieve for the mother's loss,
For her the bitter part,
In weary years to pass;
Comfort the broken heart.

Help in the widowed home,
Where thoughtless children play
Mayhap in years to come
To prove their country's stay.

Weep with the sweetheart true,
Her memory spurred him on;
True women ever do,
In battle, lost or won.

Thank God for faithful women,
The mother, sweetheart, wife;
The shrines of brave and true men
They breathe a nation's life.

Honour the soldier brave
His: Death or Victory;
Remember by his grave
The price of liberty.

Pour forth a humble prayer;
The day may never come,
When Britons cease to dare,
For Queen, for Love, for Home.

L. FERGUSON.

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Inter-Company Cricket Tournament.

—o—

FINAL MATCH.

"B" Company v. "C" Company.

Played on Thursday, 8th February, the result causing considerable surprise. Without either of their regular bowlers "B" expected to have some difficulty in disposing of their somewhat over-confident opponents. Lieutenant Harvey and Private Mossman, however, rose to the occasion, and after a most exciting game the "Clock" once more returned to its old quarters. For the winners Lieutenant Harvey 16, 19; Lieutenant Herbert 19, 15; and Private Mossman 21 in the second innings, played freely, whilst Private Ewing played a very steady 14 not out at a critical and trying time. For the losers Private Johnson hit freely both times, whilst Lieutenant Villiers-Stuart and Corporal Mahoney also contributed useful innings. The full scores are as follows:—

1st Innings. 'C' Company.		2nd Innings.	
Pte. Johnson, c Logan b Mossman ...	17	c Herbert b Harvey	22
2nd-Lieut. Villiers-Stuart, c Johnson b Mossman	15	b Harvey	7
Corpl. Mahoney, c Henry, b Mossman...	10	b Harvey	0
Sergt. Beavis, h-w-b Harvey ...	9	c and b Harvey ...	8
,, Watters, l-b-w-b Harvey ...	1	b Harvey	3
Captain Jackson, b Mossman	1	c Henry b Mossman	4
Pte. Cairns, b Mossman	0	b Mossman	1
,, Gibson, b ,, ...	0	b ,, ...	0
Col.-Sergt. Gilmour, c and b Harvey	7	b ,, ...	11
Pte. Geddes, not out	0	not out	0
,, French, c and b Mossman	0	c Kerr b Harvey ...	0
Extras	0	... ...	1
Totals	71	... ...	57

1st Innings. 'B' Company.		2nd Innings.	
Sergt. Stonor, c Beavis, b Mahoney ...	0	l-b-w-b Mahoney ...	7
Lieut. Harvey, c and b Beavis ...	16	b V.-Stuart	9
,, Herbert, b Mahoney	19	c Gilmour, b V.-Stuart	15
Pte. Mossman, b Mahoney	7	c Jackson, b Gibson	21
,, Ewing, not out	14	b V.-Stuart	0
,, Reynolds, c Gilmour, b Mahoney ...	0	b Gibson	0
,, Henry, b Mahoney	5	c Geddes, b Gibson	6
,, Lillywhite, c French, b Mahoney...	4	run out	2
,, Kerr, l-b-w-b Mahoney	2	b Gibson	0
,, Johnson, run out	5	not out	0
,, Logan, run out	6	b Beavis	1
Extras	8	... ...	10
Totals	88	... ...	81

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

1st Innings. 'C' Company.	O.	M.	R.	W.	2nd Innings.	O.	M.	R.	W.
Mossman	9-3	3	32	7	...	9-3	0	26	4
Johnson	4	0	26	0	...				
Lieut. Harvey	5	0	13	3	...	10	0	30	6

1st Innings. 'B' Company.					2nd Innings.
Sergt. Beavis	14-3	2	43	1	... 1
Corpl. Mahoney ...	13	1	35	7	... 1
2nd-Lieut. V.-Stuart ...	4	2	5	0	Not kept ... 3
Gibson	.....				4

FALL OF WICKETS.

1st Innings.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
'C' Company ...	25	38	59	59	61	62	62	70	70	71
'B' ,, ...	0	26	40	44	44	56	60	65	82	88
2nd Innings.										
'C' Company ...	16	29	30	32	42	46	46	50	57	57
'B' ,, ...	1	25	44	48	58	61	71	81	81	81

QUOITS.

In last month's news there was insufficient room to mention a most exciting quoiting match that took place on the 11th January between Private Brown (Pagal), "H" Company, and Private Trotter (P.), "D" Company. The distance played was apparently not suitable to the latter, and "H" Company's representative won rather easily. In the early part of the game the play was fairly even, the players "peeling" at 11 and again at 22, but after this Brown rapidly forged ahead, and won by 61 to 36. As is usual in such contests, there was an immense amount of enthusiasm displayed by the partisans of each of the principals during the match, though there were no serious consequences following.

Wappenschaw.

—o—

There was some fairly good shooting on the B. I. Range on Friday and Saturday, 9th and 10th February, especially by some of the teams in the collective practice competitions. "H" Company were the lucky winners in both. "B" Company team made an excellent score of 82 in the "Rapid Volleys," but "owing to the superior fire discipline of 'H' Company," the prize was awarded to them. In the "Section Attack" "H" Company had an extraordinary percentage, and won easily.

Lieutenant P. D. McCandlish had lot of hard work to do as range officer and secretary of the meeting. Color-Sergeants Swan and Smith rendered him valuable aid in a subordinate degree.

Firing commenced soon after eight o'clock on both days and continued until close upon retreat. On the 9th the distance was 200 yards, on the 10th 500 yards, whilst on the second afternoon there was "Pool" at two annas a shot. The distance was 500 yards, and there were five lucky "Bull's eyes." Considering the distance of the range from camp there were large attendances both days, and the shooting for places at the top of the prize lists was keenly contested by the competitors. The ordinary spectator also appeared much interested in the results.

The following is a list of prize winners with their scores:—

MARKSMEN.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Total	Prize. £	s.	d.
No. 6259, Pte. A. Anchinvole, 'F'	26	26	52	0	15	0
,, 3022, Cpl. W. Moat, 'A' ...	26	23	49	0	12	0
,, 3054, Pte. E. Miller, 'F' ...	25	23	48	0	10	0
,, 5373, ,, F. May, 'A' ...	23	24	47	0	8	0
,, 3852, ,, D. Campbell 'A' ...	22	24	46	0	6	0
,, 4344, ,, J. Burns, 'D' ...	25	21	46	0	7	6
,, 5383, ,, R. McNie, 'F' ...	23	23	46	0	7	6
,, 4979, ,, M. Mossman, 'B'	21	24	45	0	5	8
,, 3300, ,, D. Ward, 'C' ...	22	23	45	0	5	8
,, 2106, ,, J. Ogden, 'E' ...	21	24	45	0	5	8
,, 3344, Cpl. A. Lawrie, 'F' ...	24	21	45	0	5	8
,, 959, ,, J. Reid, 'F' ...	23	22	45	0	5	8
,, 5933, ,, G. Sherman, 'H' ...	24	21	45	0	5	8
,, 3378, Lce.-Cpl. F. Lynch, 'F'	20	25	45	0	5	8
SECOND CLASS.						
No. 5494, Pte. W. High, 'B' ...	26	24	50	0	14	0
,, 4007, ,, T. Neilson, 'E' ...	26	21	47	0	10	0
,, 2425, Lce.-Cpl. A. McInnes, 'B'	23	24	47	0	10	0
,, 4151, Pte. G. Stratford, 'E' ...	24	22	46	0	7	0
,, 3872, ,, J. Gray, 'A' ...	25	21	46	0	7	0
,, 6070, ,, J. Seton, 'F' ...	20	25	45	0	6	6
,, 2051, ,, H. Bryson, 'H' ...	20	25	45	0	6	6
,, 6849, ,, J. Allen, 'A' ...	23	22	45	0	6	0
,, 3716, ,, J. McGeechan 'A'	22	23	45	0	6	0
,, 4721, ,, J. Wylie, 'B' ...	22	23	45	0	6	0
,, 5294, Lce.-Cpl. Stevenson, 'D'	22	23	45	0	6	0
,, 5171, Pte. J. Coutts, 'G' ...	23	23	45	0	6	0
,, 5592, ,, J. McAlpine 'A' ...	23	21	44	0	5	6
,, 5593, ,, J. Balfour, 'D' ...	22	22	44	0	5	6
,, 3965, ,, W. Howlett, 'C' ...	19	24	43	0	5	0
,, 4342, ,, J. Trotter, 'D' ...	19	24	43	0	5	0
,, 4183, ,, A. Burke, 'D' ...	21	21	42	0	5	0
,, 5017, ,, J. Scott, 'H' ...	22	20	42	0	5	0
,, 6351, ,, J. Livingston, 'H'	22	21	43	0	5	0
,, 4955, ,, D. Hunter, 'A' ...	19	22	41	0	4	8
,, 5252, ,, L. Furguson, 'B' ...	20	21	41	0	4	8
,, 4006, ,, T. Craig, 'C' ...	21	20	41	0	4	8
,, 4156, ,, H. Wilson, 'D' ...	24	17	41	0	4	8
,, 5630, ,, A. Lorimer, 'D' ...	21	20	41	0	4	8
,, 4924, ,, A. Gillies, 'F' ...	21	20	41	0	4	8
,, 6315, ,, P. Oliver, 'F' ...	23	18	41	0	4	8
,, 5789, ,, C. Hearn, 'F' ...	19	22	41	0	4	8
,, 4683, ,, A. Gray, 'H' ...	22	19	41	0	4	8
,, 4650, ,, J. Craig, 'H' ...	19	22	41	0	4	8
,, 3941, ,, J. Leister, 'A' ...	19	21	40	0	2	10
,, 5060, ,, J. Kelley, 'A' ...	20	20	40	0	2	10
,, 5221, ,, J. Drain, 'A' ...	19	21	40	0	2	10
,, 5582, ,, J. Allison 'A' ...	20	20	40	0	2	10
,, 5079, Lce.-Cpl. D. McGillivray, 'B'	21	19	40	0	2	10
,, 5535, Pte. R. Watson, 'D' ...	17	23	40	0	2	10
,, 5103, ,, W. Cole, 'D' ...	21	19	40	0	2	10
,, 5335, ,, G. Downs, 'F' ...	22	18	40	0	2	10
,, 6270, ,, R. Gray, 'H' ...	21	19	40	0	2	10
,, 5961, ,, W. Carruthers, 'H'	20	20	40	0	2	10

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THIRD CLASS.

		200 yds.	600	Total	Prize. £ s. d.
No. 5981, Pte.	T. McNair, 'F' ...	17	21	38	0 5 0
,, 6053, ,,	G. Kay, 'F' ...	22	15	37	0 3 6
,, 5936, ,,	J. McNiff, 'H' ...	16	19	35	0 3 6
,, 4396, ,,	W. Ewing, 'B' ...	20	17	37	0 3 3½
,, 4677, ,,	D. Gibson, 'G' ...	15	18	33	0 3 0
,, 6179, ,,	J. Davidson, 'F' ...	21	12	33	0 3 0
,, 4696, ,,	B. Harris, 'B' ...	21	9	33	0 2 0

RAPID VOLLEYS (600 YARDS).

Teams of 8 men per Company, fire 7 rapid volleys in 1 minute.

		£ s. d.
'H' Company	31	0 16 0
'D' ,, ...	28	...
'A' ,, ...	25	...
'F' ,, ...	25	...
'C' ,, ...	24	...
'E' ,, ...	21	...
'B' ,, ...	32	...

SECTION ATTACK (700 to 200 Yards).

Teams of 14 men per Company, fire 21 rounds.

		£ s. d.
'H' Company	228	1 8 0
'G' ,, ...	198	...
'B' ,, ...	188	...
'A' ,, ...	183	...
'F' ,, ...	177	...
'D' ,, ...	177	...
'E' ,, ...	106	...

	"POOL."	"Bulls."	£ s. d.
Color-Sergeant Smith, "E"	1		0 6 0
Private Leister, "A"	1		0 6 0
,, Mossman, "B"		1	0 6 0
,, Auchinvole, "F"	1		0 6 0
,, Edwards, "F"	1		0 6 0

:o:

Saluting.

'The military method of saluting by bringing the hand into a horizontal position over the eyebrows dates back,' wrote a correspondent in *The Nines* a few years ago, 'to the tournaments of the Middle Ages, when, after the Queen of Beauty was enthroned, the knights, who were to take part in the sports of the day, marched past the *dais* on which she sat, and, as they passed, shielded their eyes from the rays of her beauty by placing their hands horizontally to their foreheads. The principal part of the officer's salute—bringing the hilt of the sword to the mouth as if to kiss it—also dates from the Middle Ages. When the Crusaders were on the march to the Holy City the knights were in the daily habit of planting their long, two-handed swords upright in the ground, thereby forming a cross, and before these they performed their morning devotions. On all military occasions they kissed the hilts of their sword in token of devotion to the Cross.

It is probable that saluting is of much more ancient origin, and must have been in force from the earliest days when men banded themselves under a leader to whom they would have to show marks of respect. The eastern salaam is closely allied to the western salute, and the former has been in force from time immemorial, and was a common custom, while the Ancient Britons were still walking about in skins, and painting their bodies with woad.

There is also another feature of salutes which should be noted, and that is, that besides being given as marks of respect, they were also intended as signs of a temporary state of helplessness and submission. A men who has to put his open hand to his head is unable to use his sword or other weapon against the person he is saluting. It is curious to observe that this same idea remains in our salutes to this day. The lowering of the sword in the officer's salute expresses his willingness to place himself unarmed in the power of the person saluted. The same idea is also to be found in the eastern custom of presenting the hilt of the sword to a superior; which custom is familiar to any one who has seen a darbar or similar function, and he will have observed how the exalted person touches the hilt, and is graciously pleased to allow the owner to retain his sword. Again this idea of placing oneself in the power of the person saluted is curiously preserved in "Presenting Arms," when the arms are held in such a position as to disqualify the performer for attack or defence: and furthermore the very word "Present" is not without meaning, for it is the offering to give up the arms, in the same way as the Asiatic warrior offers the hilt of his sword, as a token of a peaceful and respectful disposition towards the person so honoured.

Again this same idea is seen in firing salutes from guns on sea or land; the theory being the temporary disarmament of the ship or battery, which fires off the guns both as a mark of respect, and to show that they are no longer required.

In passing, we may observe an analogous custom among the North American Indians; who, when they assembled for peaceful meetings, first buried their hatchets and war clubs, to show that they were no longer required; and we allude to that custom in the well-known phrase which means that we wish to have peace, and let by-gones be by-gones

It was by no means unnecessary to take precautions against the treachery of persons offering to pay their respects. One instance is the story of Sivaji, the bloodthirsty Mahratta chief, who invited the Bijapur General to a friendly conference. Sivaji made a pair of sharp, curved, steel claws which he fastened between his fingers, and which were concealed from view. He went to the conference and on the arrival of the General rose to receive him, and put his arms round him to embrace him. He drove the steel claws into the unfortunate man's back, and killed him. The same claws are now in a museum.

Our friendly custom of shaking hands also arose through the same feeling of precaution; knights of old when treating of a truce held each other by the sword-hand to ensure against treachery. When a knight found himself among friends he removed his helmet to show there was no danger in taking off his important piece of armour, and this was the origin of taking off the hat on meeting a friend.

We all know that in India the Imperial salute to the Sovereign, if present, is 101 guns. The origin of this number is said to have arisen as follows:—Early in the 15th century, Maximillian, Emperor of Germany, was returning to his country after a successful campaign, and the town of Augsberg in Bavaria decided to fire 100 guns in his honour. Firing guns as a salute was probably a new idea at that time, and the officer commanding fearing to have fallen short of the number, caused an extra round to be fired. Nuremberg and other towns through which the Emperor passed, also did the same, and thus the custom became established. It would be interesting to know how the number of rounds for the other salutes originated, from 7 rounds for a Consul to 21 rounds for a Royal Salute in England, and 31 in India. It is to be observed that all the rounds are in odd numbers, and it is certain that they would not have been selected haphazard.

The rounds allotted to Native Princes in India are also odd numbers, and it is well known how highly they prize the honour of a salute; few rewards giving them greater gratification than an increase in the number of their guns.

The most tremendous salute probably on record was that of *one thousand guns* fired at Cherbourg in December 1840, when the body of the Emperor Napoleon, which had been handed over by the British Government to the French nation, was landed there on its arrival from St. Helena for interment in Paris.

In conclusion, all should remember that salutes and compliments are essential to discipline, and no man should forget that in saluting his superior officer he is honouring the brotherhood of arms.

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Chatill, Chatill!

—o—

"Three hundreds yards to the rear of the little Township of Modder River, writes the war correspondent of the "Daily News," just as the sun was sinking in a blaze of African splendour, on the evening of Tuesday the 13th December, a long shallow grave lay exposed in the breast of the veldt. To the west the broad river fringed with trees, ran murmuringly; to the eastward the heights, still held by the enemy, scowled menacingly; north and south the veldt undulated peacefully, a few paces northwards of that grave, fifty dead Highlanders lay, dressed as they had fallen on the field of battle; they had followed their chief to the field, and they were to follow him to the grave. How grim and stern those dead men looked as they laid face upwards to the sky, with great hands clenched in the last death agony, and brows still knitted with the stern lust of the strife in which they had fallen. The plaids, dear to every Highland clan, were represented there, and as I looked out of the distance came the sound of pipes; it was the general coming to join his men.

There, right under the eyes of the enemy, moved with slow and solemn tread, all that remained of the Highland Brigade. In front of them walked the Chaplain with bared head, dressed in his robes of office. Then came the pipers with their pipes, sixteen in all; and behind them, with arms reversed, moved the Highlanders, dressed in all the regalias of their regiments, and in the midst, the dead General, borne by four of his comrades. Out swelled the pipes, to strains of "The Flowers of The Forest" now ringing proud and high until the soldiers' heads went back in haughty defiance, and eyes flashed through tears like sunlight on steel. Now sinking to mourning wail, like a woman mourning for her first-born, until the proud heads dropped forward, till they rested on heaving chests, and tears rolled down the wan and scarred faces, and the choking sobs broke through the solemn rhythm of the march of the dead. Right up to the grave they marched then broke away in Companies, until the General lay in the shallow grave, with a Scottish square of armed men around him. Only the dead man's son and a small remnant of his officers stood with the Chaplain and the pipers, whilst the solemn service of the Church was spoken. Then once again the pipes pealed out, and "Lochaber No More" cut through the stillness like a cry of pain, until one could almost hear the widow in her highland home moaning for the soldier she would welcome back no more. Then as if touched by the magic of one's thoughts, the soldiers turned their tear-damp eyes from the still form in the shallow grave, towards the heights where Cronje, the "Lion of Africa," and his soldiers stood. Then every cheek flushed crimson, and the strong jaws set like steel, and the veins on the hands that clasped the rifle-handles swelled almost to bursting with the fervour of the grip, and that look from those silent, armed men spoke more eloquently than ever spoke the tongues of orators. For, on each frowning face, the spirit of vengeance sat, and each sparkling eye, asked alternatively for blood. "*God help the Boers when the next Highland Pibroach sounds! God rest the Boers' souls when the Highland bayonets charge, for neither death, nor hell, nor things above, nor things below, will hold the Scots from their blood feud.*" At the head of the grave, at the point nearest the enemy, the General was laid to sleep. His officers grouped around him, whilst in line with him his soldiers were laid in a double row, wrapped in their blankets. No shots were fired over the dead men resting so peacefully, only a Royal salute was given, and then the men marched campwards, as the darkness of an African night rolled over the far-stretching breadth of the veldt.

To the gentle woman who bears their General's name, the Highland brigade sends its deepest sympathy. To the mothers and the wives, to the sisters and the sweethearts in cottage homes, by hillside and glen, they send their love and good wishes. Sad will their Christmas be, sadder the New Year; yet enshrined in every womanly heart, from Queen-Empress to Cottage-girl, let their memory lie, the memory of the men of the Highland Brigade, who died at Magersfontein."

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The Kilt in Action.

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We begin to apprehend that one result of the Transvaal Campaign may be the resumption of old attempts to put breeks on the Helan'man. Elands Laagte has, it is alleged, unhappily illustrated some defects of the garb of old Gael when worn in modern warfare, as well proved as the irresistless valour of the men who wear it, and the War Office, which has of recent years been only too anxious for any excuse to curtail the millinery expenses of Her Majesty's troops, may not forget in the hour of final victory that the Gordons suffered most in at least one decisive battle of the campaign, because their kilts and sporrans were said to make them a better mark for the enemy than were their khaki-clad be-breeched English and Irish comrades. It might be too good an opportunity for White Hall economists to lose. Did they not, in 1881, attempt to abolish regimental tartans. Have they not more than once menaced the existence of the feather bonnet? The Highland uniform costs considerably more than that of the English line regiments, and if to its expense there may be added the charge of unsuitableness for modern warfare, we may expect the next attempt to interfere with its existence will be more serious than before.

Fortunately, however, the public sentiment, not of Scotland alone, but of the nation at large, will save the kilt for many a generation to come. In the far future the War Office may carry the Prussianising of our Army to the dire length of robbing the Gael of his bonnet and claymore, and giving him the "pickle haube" and the "sundnadelgewahr" instead, but it is quiet unlikely that the "half-men, half-women," who struck terror among the Boers at Elands Laagte as Sir Colin Campbell's men did for the same reasons in the case of the Russians in the Crimea, will be compelled to put off the "breacan" and don the breeches. We have a good deal more regard for sentiment than that. We have some sense of the picturesque left us. We are not yet prepared to sacrifice the one sartorial feature which has for a century and a half made Scots regiments different from and easily distinguished from English regiments, and has given an antique racial individuality to one section of an army that military tailors too much inspired by continental fashions have eternally been tinkering with.

If the sporran is too convenient a target for well-trained marksmen there are several alternatives to its abolition. It may be made of less conspicuous skin, or it may be left off in action. As for the kilt itself, it is no more conspicuous as a target than trousers are. The 42nd wore it in Egypt, the 78th under Haverlock in India, the 79th at Waterloo, the 71st at Vittoria, the 74th at Assaye, the 91st at Viniera, the 92nd and the 72nd with Roberts, the 93rd in the "Thin Red Line" at Balaclava. Is it not as historical as the victories of the British Army? We cannot even contemplate with complacence the suggestion of Lord Archibald Campbell that khaki kilts should be used in action, or that the ordinary tartan should be

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lined with khaki and turned outside in on the field of battle. Where is his Lordship's sense of humour? Imagine the General's order for advance! "Highland Brigade prepare to advance! Onbuckle kilts; turn kilts; buckle kilts; forward by the right battalion! No, no, it is impossible; besides, men who never turned their coats, nor turned their back to an enemy, are not to be calmly asked to turn their kilts."—*From the "Glasgow Evening News."*

—:o:—

"Bobs."

Now the tide of battle turns,
Hero Bobs;
And the heart of Britain burns,
Gallant Bobs;
You have done the thing once more,
Which you often did before,
And you're running down the Boer,
Dashing Bobs.

You don't believe in fuss,
Modest Bobs;
But can leave the rest to us,
Manly Bobs.
When you're trusted with her flag,
Britain's business mustn't drag,
And you haven't time for brag,
Busy Bobs.

Your head is screwed on tight,
Steady Bobs;
And you think before you fight,
Ready Bobs.
You are not the sort of chap
To be tricked into a trap,
When you're bent on going Nap,
Wily Bobs.

You're a soldier and a man,
Plucky Bobs.
Built on Nature's fighting plan,
Special Bobs.
When your heart and head were fixed,
Blood and minerals were mixed,
And you'll reach Bloemfontein next,
Iron Bobs.

There is crape upon your sleeve,
Mourning Bobs;
For an only son you grieve,
Dear old Bobs.
But you went to lead your men,
Though your heart was breaking then,
And you're near three-score-and-ten,
Glorious Bobs.

R. A. F.
In the Morning Post.

"Now then, Sentry," said a certain Sergeant of the guard a few days ago, "Mind you don't strike the clock until the gong goes." The sentry didn't so far forget himself as to relax a muscle. He merely became absorbed in contemplation of the Order Board which was conveniently within gaze.

Saved.

The cupboard was empty; he'd gambled; he'd lost.
And slack was the waiscoat o' "Ane o' oor ain."
"Huzoor, ek chitti, just come by the post."
Saved! T'was an invite "to dine wi' McL..n

Masonic.

—o—

On the night of Tuesday, 13th, Lodge "Rohilla Star," 1843 E. C., bid an informal, and, it is to be hoped, only temporary, farewell to their brethren of the Ninety-third who were shortly to be leaving for Ranikhet. At the banquet, after the usual loyal and masonic toasts, the Worshipful Master proposed the health of the Ninety-third brethren, referring in a most complimentary manner to their qualities as soldiers, but more particularly as masons. To this after a little persuasion Wor. Bro. Captain Bell most ably replied, whilst Wor. Bro. Lieut. Beattie and Bro. Bush were also persuaded to respond. Afterwards "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, and, despite natural regrets at leaving, the evening of the 13th February is sure to be very pleasantly remembered by all regimental members of the craft who were fortunate enough to be present on the occasion.

BON-FIRE CONCERT AT BAMSHAON.

Through the energy of two office-holders of the Army Temperance Association, a most excellent concert caused the second party's last night in camp to be passed right merrily. Lance-Corporal Buchanan and Tawse were the moving spirits. Having selected a suitable spot many maunds of wood were procured, and by dusk a bon-fire was burning brilliantly. Around this the wing rapidly gathered, and the chair having been taken ready responses were made to the chairman's call. Soon after the commencement Mrs. Maclean and the officers arrived, and the "Chair" was handed to Major Paterson.

The concert continued until nine o'clock; then after Major Paterson had made some very complimentary remarks about the A. T. A. came the "Queen," and the "Post" warning notes were sounding as the party broke up after a very enjoyable evening. The programme was as follows:—

Song	"Waltzing over the Floor"	Dr. BURNS.
Song	"Hands and Hearts"	Pte. DAWSON.
Song	"Rothesay Bay"	Pte. CARRUTHERS.
Song	"Shoulder to Shoulder"	Pte. COLEMAN.
Song	"Old Kentucky Home"	Pte. MCGREGOR.
Song	"Norah"	Lce.-Cpl. TAWSE.
Song (Comic)	"The Handy Man"	Dr. BALFOUR.
Song	"I'm a Scotsman Born"	Pte. HUNTER.
Song	"Dear Mother at Home"	Pte. GRANT.
Song	"Yankee or Grecian"	BRADY.
Gaelic Song		J. MCGILLVRAY.
Song	"The Irish Soldier"	Pte. HANLON.
Song (Comic)	"My Sailor Jack"	Dr. BURNS.
Song (Comic)	"Cornelius Burke"	2nd-Lt. VILLIERS-STUART.
Song	"Wild Irish Boy"	Pte. GRANT.
Song	"Loch Lomond"	Mrs. MACLEAN.
Song	"The Connaught Ranger"	Pte. MCGREGOR.
Song	"Her Nainsel"	Dr. Major WALSH.
Song (Comic)	"Clerk in ta Office"	Lce.-Cpl. RITCHIE.
Encore	"Off to Philadelphia"	" "
Song	"Willie Brewed a Peck o' Maut"	Pte. CROSBY.
Encore	"The Paisley Weaver"	" "
Song (Comic)	"Edinboro' Toon" (Parody)	Dr. BALFOUR.
Encore	"Braes o' Mar" (Parody)	" "
Song (Comic)	"Slattery's Horse"	2nd-Lt. VILLIERS STUART.
Recitation	"Execution of Montrose"	Sergt. JOHNSTONE.
Song (Comic)	"The Fly Wee Man"	Dr. BURNS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

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Death of a "Thin Red Line" Veteran.

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Another of the last survivors of the historical "Thin Red Line" has passed away in the person of Mr. Edward Collins, who died at his residence, 116 High Street, the other day. Deceased, whose figure was a well-known one in the streets of Perth, was born in the parish of Dailly, in the country of Ayr, and at the age of 18 enlisted at Irvine for the 93rd Highlanders on the 3rd October 1846. After a spell of service at home Private Collins was sent on foreign service, where he was fated to see some stirring times in connection with the Crimean War and Indian Mutiny. With his regiment he arrived at Malta on 27th February and remained there till April 1854. From there he went to the Crimea in the following August, and till August, 1855, went through that trying campaign. Landing with his regiment, he took part in the storming of the heights of Alma, and later on was at Balaclava and at the fall of Sebastopol. For his services in the Crimea, Collins was awarded the British and Turkish medals, with clasps for Alma, Balaclava and Sebastopol. The deceased was next sent to India, and here, too, he went through the Indian Mutiny, being present at the relief and capture of Lucknow, in the action with the Gwalior contingent at Cawnpore, the capture of Bareilly, and practically went through the whole campaign. He obtained the medal for the Indian Mutiny and two clasps for the relief and fall of Lucknow. After going through these two stirring campaigns, Collins returned home, and on 12th August 1859, he left the regular army, and elected to join the Reserve, in which he completed the remaining part of his army career. In late years deceased was employed with Messrs. Pullar, from whose services he retired some time ago. Deceased's last public appearance in connection with military affairs was at the unveiling of the 90th Regiment memorial on the North Inch, when he, along with several other veterans, turned out to meet Lord Wolseley, the Commander-in-Chief. On that occasion, Lord Wolseley took a great interest in the old veteran, and questioned him regarding the various engagements in which he had taken part. Deceased leaves a family of two sons and one daughter.

From a Perth Paper.

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What the Parrot is Saying.

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT "B" Company hae the Cricket Clock again.
That they hardly expected it.
That ithers hed made different arrangements.
That the photographer buidy didna' lose a job efter a'.
That it's a' the same noo sittin' or standin'.
That there wis a harmless case o' hydrophobia on the field.
That it wis somebuidy's birthday.
That there has been a guid bit shootin' lately.
That hits dinna count.
That the Adjutant's company did a' richt.
That practice didna' mak' perfect enouch.
That a certain company maist hae mistaken the target.
That the Sergaints did well enough on the 15th.
That this result wis also somewhat unexpected.
That their opponents hae a great reputation tae.
That it left for the hills early this year.
That it wis jist gettin' gey gurm at Bareilly when it left.
That Shahjahanpur 'ull be lonesom' nae doubt this simmer.
That the hill roads wis in guid condition for marchin'.
That it disna think a man fell oot a' the way.
That it believes the Sairgents' o' the 2nd party had a guid send off.
That Ranikhet seems a maist bracing kind o' place.
That it's no sae easy tae find the way hame o' nichts.
That the time for refreshment his consequently been curtailed somewhat.
That some of the roads are laug and narrow anes.
That it would like tae interview the individual responsible for the oreeginal design o' the place.

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Ninety-third Calendar for April 1900.

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1	S.	On War Establishment: Russian War Scare 1878.
2	M.	
3	Tu.	Emb. W. Indies on board "*Orestes*" and "*Marquis of Huntly*" for England 1834.
4	W.	Arrvd. Portsmouth from Gibraltar on board "*Egypt*" 1881; to Aldershot. Headquarters left Bareilly for Chaubattia, 1898.
5	Th.	Stirling to Edinburgh, 1850. Depot of 56th Brigade (92nd and 93rd) formed at Aberdeen.
6	F.	Left Malta for Galipoli, 1854. Left Galipoli for Crimea, Troopship "*Kangaroo*," 1854. Joined General Walpole's Force for campaign in Rohilkund, 1858.
7	S.	"Furlo,'" draft arrived, Nowshera, 1896.
8	S.	
9	M.	Head-quarters arrived at Chaubattia, 1898.
10	Tu.	2nd Battalion arrived Gravesend, 1841 Annual Highland games, Nowshera, 1896, Physical Drill Shield, won by "H" Compnay.
11	W.	Arrvd. Galipoli from Malta, 1854.
12	Th.	Tug-of-War Shield, won by "D" Company Nowshera, 1896.
13	F.	
14	S.	
15	S.	Edinburgh to Glasgow, 1851.
16	M.	Bri.-Gen. Adrian Hope *k.* Royah, 1858.
17	Tu.	
18	W.	"E" Company, winners of Football League Nowshera, 1896.
19	Th.	
20	F.	
21	S.	
22	S.	
23	M.	2nd Battalion under Maj. William Wemyss emb. Gosport, Troopships "*Willam Heathcote*" and "*Mariner*" for Newfoundland, 1814.
24	Th.	
25	W.	Cape of Good Hope for England, Troopships "*Baring*," "*Preston*" *and* "*Norfolk*," 1814. 453 1st class A. R. joined (200 transferred to 91st) Russian War Scare, 1879.
26	Th.	
27	F.	Lootwallah Scare, Nowshera, 1897.
28	S.	
29	S.	
30	M.	Arrvd. Shahjahanpur with Rohilkund Force, 1858.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Provisional Lance-Sergeant.—No. 4526, Corporal W. G. Watt, "D" Company.

To be Provisional Lance-Corporals.—No. 5550, Private F. Risdon, 6182, Private A. Watt, "F" Company, No. 6461, Private J. Shanks, "E" Company, dated 10th February, No. 5291, Private R. Tawse, "D" Company, dated 12th February.

To be Acting Drummer.—No. 5892, Private J. Adams, "G" Company, No. 6070, Private J. Seton, "F" Company, No. 6448, Private C. Turnbull, "H" Company.

EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES.

Granted First Class Certificates of Education.

No. 4058, Lce.-Cpl. J. Buchanan, "F" Company.
" 5853, " " J. Brown, "G" "
" 3300, Bandsman D. Ward, "C" "
" 3927, " W. Walker, "A" "

Passed, Part I.

" 2981, Sergeant W. Scott, "D" Company.
" 3236, " R. Miller, "G" "
" 4484, " P. Matthew, "F" "
" 4628, Corporal G. Ballantyne, "E" "
" 5219, " M. Sutherland, "F" "
" 5885, Lce.-Cpl. W. Morrison, "G" "
" 6145, " " A. McDonald, "G" "
" 4645, Private C. Bennie, "G" "

Passed, Part II.

" 5164, Bandsman C. Lewington, "E" Company.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete 21 years with the colours.—

No. 3144, Sergeant W. G. Older, "A" Company.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION.

Passed for rank of Sergeant—

No. 3628, Lce.-Sergt. F. W. Poole, "G" Company.
" 3344, Corporal A. Lawrie, "F" "
" 4567, " D. Inglis, "G" "
" 5219, " M. Sutherland, "F" "
" 3022, " W. Moat, "A" "

Passed for rank of Corporal—

No. 2810, Lce.-Corpl W. Willcocks, "A" Company.
" 4058, " " J. Buchanan, "F" "
" 5294, " " J. Stevenson, "D" "
" 5163, " " J. Allan, "D" "
" 6145, " " A. McDonald, "G" "

To be re-examined in subject (D)—

No. 5081, Corpl. R. Kelley, "C" Company.
" 5763, " R. Allison, "H" "

To be re-examined in subjects (D) and (E)—

No. 3849, Lce.-Corpl. J. Duff, "G" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 3d. per diem—

"A" Company.
No. 2810, Lce.-Corpl. W. Willcocks.

Granted 2d. per diem—

"B" Company.
No. 4991, Private J. Andersen.
"C" Company.
No. 5008, Private J. Young
"E" Company.
No. 4505, Pte. G. Barnes. | No. 4984, Pte. J. Douglas.
"F" Company.
No. 4994, Private J. Gentles.
"H" Company.
No. 4665, Private J. Crawford.

Granted 1d. per diem—

"C" Company.
No. 4439, Private J. Elder.
"D" Company.
No. 5488, Private A. Gillan.
"E" Company.
No. 6440, Pte. W. Davitt. | No. 4812, Pte. J. McDonald.
" 6479, " A. McFarlane. | " 6461, Lce.-Cpl. J. Shanks.
"F" Company.
No. 6087, Pte. F. Kerr. | No. 5770, Pte. J. Cullen.
"G" Company.
No. 5929, Pte. J. Hunter. | No. 5571, Pte. J. Archibald.
"H" Company.
No. 6453, Pte. J. Craig. | No. 6448, Pte. C. Turnbull.

No. 6464, Pte. F. Mangan.

NUMBER ALLOTTED.

No. 7366, to Private C. B. Painter, "B" Company.

SERVICE RESTORED.

In accordance with para. 1842 *Q. R.*—

No. 4786, Private J. Chapman, "A" Company.
" 4664, " J. McAllister, "A" "
" 5049, " J. Rafferty, "A" "

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Our successful Teams at the Assault-at-Arms.

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The following are the names of men of our successful teams at the recent District Assault-at-Arms.

"ALARM POSTS" TEAM.

Corporal D. Inglis, "G" Company.

Pte. A. Dale,	"A" Coy.		Pte. R. Stirratt,	"G" Coy.	
" J. Logan,	"B" "		" McLuckie,	"H" "	
" J. Davidson,	"F" "		" Duncan,	"H" "	
" W. Benson,	"G" "		" Scullion,	"H" "	

PHYSICAL DRILL TEAM.

Sergeant C. Clarke, "H" Company.

Pte. P. Flynn	"A" Coy.		Pte. Kay,	"F" Coy.	
" S. McDermott,	"B" "		" J. McLaren,	"G" "	
" A. Stewart,	"B" "		" A. McKinnon,	"G" "	
" J. Duff	"C" "		" D. Fyffe,	"G" "	
" W. Cole,	"D" "		" Paterson,	"H" "	
" D. Tosh,	"E" "		" Dawson,	"H" "	
" D. Aird,	"E" "		" Cattenach,	"H" "	
" J. Adams,	"E" "		" Carruthers,	"H" "	
" Maywood,	"F" "		" Scott, (5017)	"H" "	
" Smith (Turnbull)	"F" "		" Hawthorne,	"H" "	

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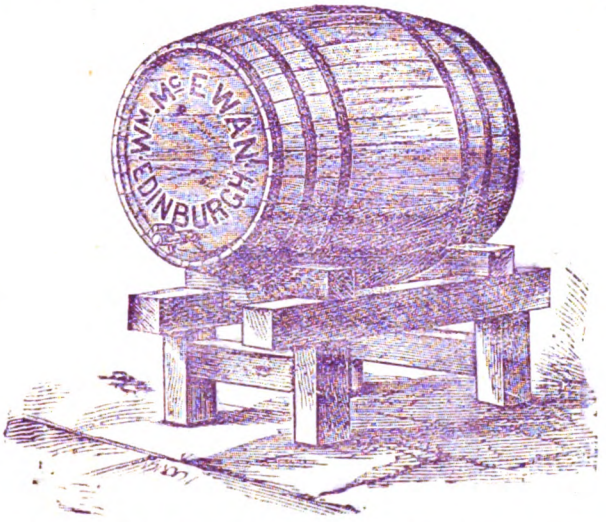

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INVALID'S PORT

Rs. 32-8 Per Dozen.

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The Thin Red Line.

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XCIII

THE THIN RED LINE

The Regimental Paper

OF THE

2nd Batt. (Princess Louise's) Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

No. 12—Vol. V. RANIKHET,—APRIL 1900. [Price, 2 Annas.

SKIRLS

THE news of Cronje's surrender, almost the first news to reach us after becoming settled at Ranikhet, followed by the almost immediate knowledge of the relief of Ladysmith, afforded immense satisfaction. No bells rang out their merry peels certainly, neither was bunting displayed, nor were fireworks even let off, but everyone seemed inclined to be confidential to his neighbour, and as it was just before the "final cash settlement," for February had entirely evaporated, and as the good news was whispered round late in the afternoon, there were many confidences exchanged during the evening, not tending, by the way, to that higher development of the bump of locality so essential to a residence in these higher altitudes, especially when compelled to observe the habits of punctuality required by regulations.

* * * * * *

The death of Colonel O. C. Hannay, who had command of one of the colonial contingents, pursuing the Boer leader, was a set off to the general satisfaction caused by the knowledge of Cronje's capture :—

"It is with the deepest sorrow the commanding officer announces to the battalion the death of Colonel Hannay who fell at the battle of Paardo Berg in South Africa. Colonel Hannay served in the 93rd Highlanders for about twenty years, and commanded the first battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, from 27th June 1893 to 26th June 1899."

So read a Battalion Order of the 5th March. Only those who know the feeling of the men who served under the late Colonel Hannay during the time he commanded the first battalion, and there are not a large number of the present second battalion but who are proud to admit that they at one time were under his command, can form any idea of the devotion of the men to their commander, and of the loss the nation has sustained by the death of such a born leader of men as Colonel Hannay undoubtedly was.

* * * * * *

It has since transpired that Captain Neill Malcolm, D. S. O., also with Colonials, was severely

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wounded in the same fight. Captain Malcolm was comparatively recently, it will be remembered, invalided home from Uganda. He was therefore not in the best of health at the time of being wounded, and consequently is not being reported upon at all favourably by his doctors. It is to be hoped, however, that he will soon have made progress towards recovery, as there should shortly be abundance of scope in South Africa for officers of Captain Malcolm's experience and proclivities.

* * * * * *

We are reminded by writing the above that we have just received the very kind permission of Messrs. Blackwood and Sons, the publishers of Edinburgh, to re-publish a paper by Captain Malcolm that quite recently appeared in "Blackwood's Magazine." "On Service in the Uganda Protectorate" is the title of Captain Malcolm's article, and it will, we feel sure, be read by every one with the greatest interest. We shall have to defer the publication however until the commencement of a new volume, as it will be necessary to continue it through several numbers.

* * * * * *

Leather chin straps to be worn with the helmet in khaki are a great improvement both to the utility and appearance of the head dress.

* * * * * *

Musketry has commenced somewhat earlier this year than formerly. "G" Company are the first to try the Ranikhet Range and the experiment so far promises well. "G" Company have made an excellent beginning and with equal advantages throughout the year the battalions figure of merit should show a very substantial improvement upon past performances.

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"A" and "E" Companies have also commenced their annual field training whilst "B" Company have just been "struck off" for the annual twelve days' gymnastic course.

* * * * * *

Brigadier-General St. John Fancourt Michell from the Allahabad District assumed command of Rohilkhund on the 8th March in the place of Sir W. H. Meiklejohn, K.C.B., C.M.G., who has gone home on leave on account of ill-health. We wish Sir William and Lady Meiklejohn a most pleasant homeward journey, and hope the change may have the desired effect upon the health of our late popular Brigadier.

* * * * * *

"In the spring time a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of——" spring drills apparently; for we have recently been practising most assiduously all those little elementary principles of drill in which each and every one of us fondly imagined he was long past the stage of perfection. How agreeable has been the task of disillusioning the many could only be adequately realized by an attendance at the "upper square" daily, at about the hour of eleven.

* * * * * *

The somewhat boisterous winds of Ranikhet (quite seasonable March ones, though), and other peculiarities of a hill climate, necessitated at first the wearing of warm clothing at all hours of the twenty-four. The white buff jacket was therefore again utilised for all parades and duties with the exception of guards, which demanded red serge. It is now much warmer, and although strong westerly winds prevail every afternoon up to sunset khaki can be appreciated as a working dress, and serge clothing is now discarded until "retreat," which by the way still sounds at half-past five.

* * * * * *

On Wednesday, the 7th, Sir William Lockhart's telegram of congratulation to Lord Roberts was read on parade:—

"No. 937, A.A.G., India, Calcutta, wires to-day, Sir William Lockhart has sent the following telegram to Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, the terms of which, he feels sure, all ranks will heartily reciprocate:—"The Indian Army, British and Native, send heartiest congratulations to their old Chief and best friend." Please communicate by wire to all Districts for communication to troops. Please communicate to all troops.

Then on Friday, the 9th, came Lord Roberts' answer:—

"983, A.A.G., India, wires: 'Reference' my telegram 1897 Camp, 28th February, the following telegram dated 2nd March has been received from Field Marshal Lord Roberts, Commanding in Chief the Forces, South Africa, begins:—"I am much gratified and encouraged by your Excellency's telegram, and beg you to accept yourself

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and to convey to the Army, India, my sincerest thanks for your kind congratulations. Please communicate to all troops."

And also Sir William Lockhart's message to Sir George White:—

"984, A.A.G.I., wire: 'Following telegram has been sent by Chief to General Sir George White, the terms of which His Excellency feels sure will be reciprocated by all ranks of the Army in India, begins: "The army in India congratulate you and garrison of Ladysmith on gallant defence." Please communicate to all concerned.'"

After these "communications" the parade was dismissed, and the day was observed as a holiday by all but the "upper square brigade." But what did it matter! A parade is but a pleasant pastime, and everyone was delighted with the kindly acknowledgment from "their old chief and best friend."

* * * * *

On the 10th ultimo the Standing Camp party marched in from Bamshaon, our band, drums and pipes meeting them a few miles out and playing them to their destination. There the sergeants found breakfast ready for them, the members of our Sergeants' Mess having made all arrangements for the new comers' arrival. The Standing Camp garrison consists of two companies of the Border Regiment from Bareilly, a company of the Cameronians from Lucknow, with a large proportion of their band, together with details from most corps in the Rohilkund and Oudh districts. Major St. George Burton, of the Black Watch, is commandant at the Standing Camp. With the party came some twenty or thirty of our men who had been left sick in Bareilly when the battalion came to the hills.

* * * * *

Four days later the head-quarters of the East Surrey Regiment from Lucknow occupied Chaubattia, and the Ranikhet hills have now their full complement of troops for the summer.

* * * * *

After many disappointments and delays Sergeant-Major R. Lundie has managed to get away on six months' furlough home. Sergeant-Major Lundie, who is taking home to Scotland his invalid little girl, sailed on the 15th March. Colour-Sergeant H. Ditcham is officiating for him during his absence.

Colour-Sergeant J. Middleby, it should have been mentioned before, left us in February for the home volunteer staff, and has no doubt by now his company well in hand. "Jock" Middleby's figure has been a familiar one in the Ninety-third for over twenty-one years. He has represented the regiment with more than credit at many Highland gatherings, and at the Agricultural Hall. For many years he was an "Army Champion," and just before coming abroad with the regiment was persuaded to give exhibitions of his prowess with caber, shot and hammer in Sweden and Norway. He is not so young now as he used to be, but if he cares to exert himself a good man of the younger generation would be required to beat him. Colour Sergeant Middleby has always been a Ninety-third man to the back-bone, and was the last remaining link with the pre-territorial system. Jock's will be a prominent figure at the Trades Hall, Glasgow, on the next twenty-fifth of October it can be safely guaranteed.

* * * * *

Two others are also away to take up appointments at home as volunteer instructors, Sergeants P. Campbell and R. Dunkeld. This is Sergeant Campbell's third attempt to get to the Volunteer Company to which he was appointed nearly two years ago. War and rumours of war had so far kept him from getting any nearer to Kintyre than Bombay from where he was finally recalled last October. He has at last, however, managed to embark, having sailed on the 15th March.

* * * * *

The band are not quite so busy here as they were at Bareilly, "Mess" and "Coffee Shops" still employs them for some time on the usual evenings, but their only other promenade so far is "The Club" on Mondays.

* * * * *

Ranikhet does not lend itself to the effective playing of reveille, retreat and tattoo, and the music of the pipes and drums on these occasions is seldom heard by others than the denizens of the upper square. At the dawn of day the

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absence of inspiring music is probably not looked upon as any great hardship by dwellers in the less favoured quarters of Ranikhet. "Retreat," however, loses all its majesty when played (on a space where there is little more than sufficient room in which to turn about gracefully) to a couple of almost empty bungalows, some orderly Sergeants and the piquet.

* * * * *

On the 19th news of the death of His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir William Lockhart, Commander-in-Chief in India, was received by wire. For several days afterwards the band did not play. Major-General Sir Power Palmer, commanding the Punjab, has been appointed Officiating Commander-in-Chief.

* * * * *

Chaubattia once more rang with the stirring strains of "The Campbells are comin'" on the 27th. The occasion was a route march, the first so far, when the five companies available for parade were taken to re-visit old scenes, such pleasant old scenes to most of us. There are many changes to note in Chaubattia since our first arrival in 1898, decided improvements as a matter of fact. The old wooden bungalows that the right wing remembers so well no longer remain, stone walls having been substituted for the wooden ones in almost every instance. There were many other little details no doubt that might have been noticed, had the visit been a protracted one, but the battalion merely entered barracks by the cart road, and turning to the right came back past the Fitzwygram quarters. The East Surrey Regiment turned out almost to a man to see us pass, seemingly somewhat surprised, though no doubt delighted, at the honour being paid them. Chaubattia looked very fresh and bright compared with our own dusty hill; but comparisons are proverbially odious!

* * * * *

2nd-Lieutenant L. G. Fenzi, who was appointed to the battalion in January last, joined on the 28th ultimo, and has been posted to "E" Company.

Captain Sutherland has gone to serve the Khedive. After relinquishing the post of Adjutant to the battalion last summer he went home for eight months, it will be remembered, on a well earned leave, and quite recently got an extension. Now instead of rejoining us he is away apparently to take care of our two recently promoted Captains, Messrs. Newall and Johnston Stewart. Captain Sutherland did not participate in our latest little victory in the Soudan, but he will no doubt be in time for anything else that may be going, and will at any rate be able to assist in the little scheme at present being developed at two points of the compass for the general improvement and enlightenment of the Dark Continent.

Captain Sutherland has had such a long connection with the regimental paper, has contributed so often and so much to its pages, that we feel sure he will not allow the "Thin Red Line" to hunger long for contributions from his Egyptian flesh-pots. His impressions of the land of the Pharaohs are anxiously awaited.

* * * * *

Some very excellent "snapshots" of every day's incidents in our regimental life are being taken by Private D. W. Macbean, "E" Company, who is certainly a most clever operator with a hand camera. Of the many photographs lately taken by him one of the camp of our second party at Rattighat and another showing the same wing marching into Bamshoan are particularly good, "Spring Drill" and the recent tug-of-war and physical drill contests have also been immortalised, and the large number of his negatives are daily being added to.

* * * * *

A portion of the Native Army, regiments in the first army corps presumably, are shortly to be armed with the Lee-Metford Rifle. This is only as it should be. To handicap some of the finest soldiers of Asia recruited from races who for generations have possessed the true instincts of the fighting man is but to court disaster when the great day of their need arises.

In the new scheme of frontier defence we notice that our old Brigadier, Major-General Sir C. G. Egerton, K. C. B., A. D. C., has the most

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important command. He is now officiating in the Punjab Command.

* * * * *

The Signallers underwent their annual inspection on Thursday, 9th ultimo. Despite the fact that practice had been on the plains and that the examination took place almost immediately upon arrival at Ranikhet, before any practice under the changed conditions should be taken, the examination was a "very satisfactory" one indeed. The points gained have been 1,009·32, and had it not been for a somewhat unaccountable little weakness with "lamps," there is not the least doubt a much higher number of marks would have been obtained. Even with 1,009·32, however, a favourable position amongst the signallers of the British Army in India is almost assured.

* * * * *

March has been quite a month of competitions. On the 17th the two best shots of the rank and file from each company competed for "battalion shot." In this one "A" Company's representatives scored best, and secured the distinction and the prize. On the 19th the first ties for the inter-company tug-of-war took place. The pull between "A" and "B" was the only thing noteworthy in the first round. On the afternoon following the semi-final ties were decided, and on the 21st the final took place. After a splendid exhibition of determination, "H" Company won, and deservedly. On the morning of 26th there was no parade, but instead the annual inter-company physical drill competition for Captain Moulton Barrett's Shield. Of this last year's holders still maintain possession.

* * * * *

With the award of the "Shooting Shield," which is also hardly likely under the present circumstances to change quarters, the five trophies belonging to the battalion will have been disposed of. Up to the present "B" have the "Cricket Clock," "C" the "Physical Drill Shield," "G" the "Football Clock" and "H" the "Tug-of-War Shield." No prize will be awarded to any one guessing the winner of the remaining trophy. Only one company can win that!

Lieutenant R. J. P. Cox got a hurried summons to leave on the 14th ultimo for duty at the depôt at Stirling. He left on the following day, and sailed from Bombay on the 20th.

* * * * *

There is much dancing and tripping the light fantastic in store for the energetic. Two dance clubs are in existence in the battalion, with invitations extending to almost all and everyone; they are known respectively as the "Thistle" and "Sans Peur" (pronounced phonetically please). Friday evenings "from 7 to 11 P.M." find the members of "Sans Peur" and their many visitors holding the floor of the regimental theatre, whilst on alternate Tuesdays the Thistle Club has its opportunity. On the second and fourth Wednesday of each month the corporals also devote themselves to the terphsichorean art in the same building.

* * * * *

The members of the Sergeants' Mess are to commence their fortnightly practice dances shortly in their own spacious mess rooms. The first and third Wednesdays of each month are the nights selected, probably owing to the advisability of a holiday following upon such occasions.

———— : o : ————

Hockey.

—o—

There was a match on the parade ground on the 31st March. It was between the 93rd Officers and Standing Camp. Play started at 4 P.M. punctually. Lieutenants Kennedy and Herbert made straight for their opponents' goal at starting and play was much in favour of the 93rd, although they had not succeeded in scoring anything by half-time. The second half was again favourable, the 93rd efforts being eventually crowned with success.

Scores. { 93rd ... ... 1 goal.
Standing Camp ... ... *nil.*

Major Paterson in goal, Captain Campbell and Messrs. Macklean, Herbert, Kennedy and Spry all played well for the home team. The visitors *back* division was very strong. Sergeant Durnan was umpire; Privates Atherton and Murphy, linesmen. There have also been other matches since the arrival of the battalion in Ranikhet but no results are to hand.

"B" Company have been out on several occasions with almost unvarying success.

SENTRY (giving over orders) .....CORPORAL (prompting).

"Take charge of treasure chest....." SENTRY. Take charge of the key and allow no one to enter it after having access to it.

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The God-forgotten Beggar.

—o—

(With all apologies).

When you've paid your debt with ribbons, and your blunders turned to bars,
When you've issued all the crutches, wot's required.
Will you kindly give an 'earing to another son of Mars.
That's a fellow in the east wot's time-expired,
E's a God-forgotten beggar, p'raps you've forgot 'im too.
But near the gates o' brimstone you will find 'im.
It's just on twice a twelve month since 'is twenty-one was due,
And 'e wouldn't like to leave 'is quids behind 'im.
Mac's son—Jack's son—son of the Lord knows 'oo.
(Twice five thousand 'orse and foot when will they get away!)
Each of 'em done to a blooming turn (give 'em an answer do.)
Bolo your boss, they're longin' to cross the bay, bay, bay.

When 'e fetched up at Deolali 'e was well and fit and strong,
But 'e is'nt now the bloke wot once e's been,
And it's more than rather likely that 'is liver's all gone wrong,
And it's rather more than likely 'e 's a spleen.
E's a God-forgotten beggar, but 'e 'elped to pink your map,
And it's time you sent a trooper out to find 'im,
For 'e never knows the minit wot they'll issue out the tap,
And e' 'd 'ave to leave 'is twenty-one be'ind 'im,
Mac's son—Jack's son—'eroes from Sandy Row,
(Twice five thousand 'orse an' foot it's time they had a say!)
Each of 'em done to a bloomin' turn (they're sending their love to Joe.)
Bolo your boss they're longing to cross the bay, bay, bay.

You needn't think you'll lose 'im 'cause you lets 'im cross the bay,
For 'e ain't a bloke wot hankers for a job,
It's like than rather morely when 'e 's 'ad 'is 'oliday,
'E 'll indulge a second duffy in the bob,
And posin, as a Rooky on the many barrick squares,
If good at spotting winners you will find 'im,
While a sergeant bangs a gun about, and swears some 'orrid swears.
Never dreaming that the orkard bloke could blind 'im.
Mac's son—Jack's son—'eroes from County Cork,
(Twice five thousand 'orse an' foot give 'em their 'oliday!
All as they wants is a fair old spree ('eroes aint born to work).
Bolo your boss, they're longing to cross the bay, bay, bay!

CAEN MOR.

—: o :—

Sprinting.

—o—

There was a match on the 29th March between Private Cairns, "D" Company, and Private Comrie, "H" Company, for Rs. 10 a side. Cairns conceded Comrie one and-a-half yards in the "hundred." Comrie got a slight advantage at the start and finally won a very close race by about four inches. The time was not taken. The race took place on the regimental parade ground.

Ranikhet and the Gurkha War of 1815.

—o—

One eventual result of the war with the Gurkhas of Nipal, a war that in the beginning was probably as fertile in disaster as any of our more recent campaigns, has been the opening up of the many hill stations and sanataria that now, disposed upon the temperate outer ranges of the mighty Himalayas, stretching many hundreds of miles from Darjiling to Dalhousie, afford the British army in India a refuge for many months of the year from the burning heat and other discomforts of the plains.

Perhaps not the least important of these hill stations, though of post-Mutiny growth, is the battalion's present summer home. Ranikhet is in Kumaon, which, together with Garhwal, forms one of the North-Western Provinces of Bengal. The cantonment is situated in about latitude 29 deg. 37 min north, longitude 79 deg. 25 min. west, at a height taken at the observatory of 5,983 feet above the sea. It is on a main ridge that running almost east and west through about half the breadth of Kumaon, forms a third parallel against any direct ingress from the south into the heart of that province; whilst it also separates the basin of the Kosi or Cosilla on the south from that of the Ramganga on the north. The Kathal-lekh or Ryuni range, for this watershed, which in places reaches to a height of nearly 7,000 feet, is by these names known, bears upon its greatest heights a covering of thick forest. Lower down towards the plains, except in the vicinity of the many streams and rivulets, the slopes of the Kumaon hills are bare and barren, especially where the aspect is a southern one. Dwarf bushes and shrubs of an evergreen hue make ineffectual attempts to relieve the dull brown of the hillside, while boulders of crumbling rock start out from the unproductive soil. Here, however, in higher altitudes the Himalayan oak, the horse chestnut, the willow, the walnut and many varieties of fir and larch and pine cloak the earth as though an all-wise providence had clothed these higher ranges against the inclemency that their proximity to the line of perpetual snow invites. In the milder sheltered undulations between the higher hills the sturdy oaks flourish not; many other trees, however, common to temperate climes take the places of the hardier varieties, whilst upon the slopes long grasses are found substituted for the creepers and brambles, the hawthorn and rhododendron, that higher up choke the nullahs and water-courses and make progress over these forest-crested heights except by frequented paths and tracks a difficult and unpleasant task.

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The northern slopes of this central range, especially those which sweep down into the upper valley of the Ramgunga, the most fertile valley in Kumaon, are more pleasant to look upon than the sterile ridges stretching south. Cultivated terraces like rude attempts at contouring define the lower spurs and features, accentuating the map-like appearance of the scene when viewed from a commanding eminence. Sometimes where the soil will repay the labour the cultivation cuts into the mane-like undulating woodland of the ridge's summit, whilst often, seemingly in retaliation for this encroachment, gaunt and emaciated arms of the forest stretch downwards as though hungering after the fertility of the valleys.

With this somewhat digressive topographical preface to a sketch affecting to be merely historical, a digression, however, that may assist the reader to appreciate the difficulties of campaigning in a country of natural mountain fastnesses, an account of the operations around Ranikhet—operations which were but precursory to the acquisition of the Province of Kumaon by the honorable East Indian Company—may be proceded with.

In the early part of the year eighteen hundred and fifteen when the Gurkhas were being hard-pressed by our arms in their western-most possessions, a small British force, some four or five thousand irregular levies from Rohilkhand and Oudh, advanced into Kumaon with the double purpose of freeing that province from the Gurkha yoke and at the same time preventing reinforcements being sent from Nipal to the beleaguered Gurkha outposts in Sirmur, and the more western valley of the Sutlej.

The main body of this force, numbering about 3,000 men, with two six-pounders under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Gardner, formerly an officer of the Maratha army, advanced upon Almora, the capital of the province, by a route, the latter stages of which should be fairly familiar to most of us. A river we have seen, the before mentioned Kosi, has its rise in the hills somewhere to the north of Almoa. As an ordinary mountain stream the Kosi runs in a southerly direction for several miles from its source, then turning to the westward and assuming somewhat more respect able dimensions it is crossed at Khairna by an iron girder bridge on the Ranikhet-Kathgodam cart road. After this the river proceeds through the centre of a distinctly defined valley towards the plains until debouching from the hills some fifty miles away at Ramnaggar it eventually finds itself one among the many feeders of the sacred Ganges.

By way of this river valley, which forms an easy and natural ingress into a mountainous and difficult country, the main British force entered Kumaon. An early result of the British occupation of the Province, the old cart road from the plains follows, for about its first thirty miles after entering the hills, the bed of the Kosi, and most probably for ages before the advance of Colonel Gardner's force the river bed had been the main highway between the central districts of Kumaon and the neighbouring lowlands. By a perfectly natural similitude of ideas the valley appeared to the Gurkhas the most likely route by which to expect an enemy, so all the preparations that the weakness of their force would permit were made to safeguard the upper and more easily defended portion of this natural highway to their stronghold. But they had reckoned without their host. Colonel Gardiner with his levies did enter the hills by the Kosi on the 15th February. Quickly overcoming the little opposition that was at first encountered and effectually securing his lines of communication he had by the 21st pushed his advanced guard forward to a place called Sethi within thirty miles of Almora. Here he received information that a Gurkha force had taken up a strong position some fifteen miles further on at Bajan (the present rest camp of that name), effectually barring the way to the capital of the province. Realising at once that a further advance along the river bed was no longer advisable and with a true geographer's eye for a watershed, Colonel Gardner left the river route, and took the high ground to his left where a track appeared to lead across the hills. This track was really an alternative route from Almora to the plains, running along the Ryuni ridge, and cutting off a considerable bend in the upper part of the Kosi stream, only to enter its bed when greater facilities for traffic were afforded than in its higher reaches.

The ascent by this path from the bed of the river was steep and difficult, culminating in a hill called Chaumua Devi, or Chaumukhia, according to the Gazetteer, but corresponding with the place on the map shown as Derikabaon (Deri-ka-gaon?), at an altitude of 6,354 feet. Colonel Gardner with a handful of men seized this hill, which was covered with snow at the time, on the evening of the 22nd. On the following morning he received small reinforcements, but it was three days later before the whole force, encumbered with the guns and baggage elephants, could be got to the top.

The Gurkha force at Bajan, as soon as aware of the change in direction of the British advance, endeavoured to forestall them in the occupation of Chaumua Devi. They were too late, however, and so accepted the only alternative, that of

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falling back upon the first favourable ground to bar the newly declared line of advance upon Almora.

The position selected by the Gurkhas as best suited for this purpose was the hill here at Kumpur. This they occupied, and strongly stockaded. On the 28th February the British force moved forward from Chaumua, and took up a more advanced position opposite the Kumpur stockade, but refrained from any attack. The Gurkhas were a thousand determined men with one gun, and looking down from the pinnacle at the present day, and seeing the Ramnaggar road winding like a mere thread many hundreds of feet below, the discretion of the British commander seems to be more than justified. The position occupied by the British in front of Kumpur is called in the reference Kapina-kedanda, but there seems to be no local record of the existence of such a name, though the hill is more likely than not the one that overlooks the present village of Gunia Deo, which would have formed an excellent position, before the introduction of long range arms, for watching the stockade at Kumpur.

For some three weeks or so the British contented themselves with watching. During this time there were a couple of successful skirmishes in the valley of Tarkhet, but by the 22nd March the attacking force had been reinforced, and so were sufficiently strong to once more assume the offensive. This consisted in another flanking movement, which proved as successful as the first.

Those who have been at Chaubattia may probably recollect a somewhat conspicuous hill situated apparently about midway between Chaubattia and Almora, prolonging the alignment of and overtopping "one tree hill" as you look —from the parade ground. This hill, or mountain for its summit crowned by a temple is 7,186 feet above the level of the sea, is known as Siyahi Devi, and was the objective of Colonel Gardner's flanking movement. On the night of the 22nd a force of 1,200 men marched south-east towards this mountain. Their road cannot, naturally, after the lapse of so much time, be very accurately traced now. They approached Siyahi Devi, however, by the bed of stream that skirts the Almora side of Chaubattia hill and which is fed by many of the nullahs that drain the latter place. It is thus not unnatural to conjecture that the route was up the spur where is now the old familiar "corkscrew," by "one tree hill" and then down into the valley that spreads out from the parade ground towards Almora. There is now a foot path leading down the edge of a spur in the direction of Siyahi Devi, and it is not at all improbable that this same foot-path afforded facilities for the advance on that mountain on the 22nd March 1815.

A demonstration in front of the Kumpur stockade cloaked the turning movement. Possession of the mountain, which the British secured on the 23rd, now threatened the Gurkha line of retreat, whilst it also imperilled the safety of their capital, which was but weakly garrisoned. The Gurkhas thus menaced immediately abandoned their stockade on Kumpur hill, and beat a precipitous retreat along the ridge to Almora, past where is now the standing camp and the race-course at Upat.

The British followed more leisurely, taking two days to reach Ryuni, which may be remembered as the large village the battalion retired from so skilfully on the last day of the Almora manœuvres of 1898. At Ryuni the pursuing force rested a day for the guns and heavy baggage, which had again fallen somewhat behind, but on the 28th the march was continued to Katarmal, another place those on the 1898 manœuvres will recollect well, from which place a small advanced post of the enemy retreated. From Katarmal to Almora is only some eight or ten miles, but the Kosi here, a mountain torrent, intervenes, and so another pause in the proceedings was necessary.

The weakness of the Gurkha force in Kumaon has been before alluded to. It is probable that the numbers to which Colonel Gardner's force had been opposed throughout the whole of its advance had never exceeded 1,500, and of these a large number were levies from Kumaon. These Kumaonis as the British success became assured not unnaturally came over in considerable numbers to the successful side, so at this time the Gurkha force to defend Almora did not probably exceed 1,000 men. Afterwards as the siege progressed some reinforcements were received by them from the south-east, where the British attack against Kumaon had resulted in an ignominious failure, the commandant, Captain Hearsay, being taken a prisoner into Almora, but these little additions probably did no more than compensate the Gurkhas in Almora for casualties from death and desertion. Still the force at Colonel Gardner's disposal was quite inadequate, and had not been equipped to undertake a siege, despite the weakness of the enemy.

The eventual fall of Almora was assured however when on the 8th April the long expected reinforcements arrived. These had followed the route already taken by Colonel Gardner. They consisted of nearly three complete battalions of regular native infantry with twelve guns, and added as well as in numbers very much to the morale of the irregular force already employed. The reinforcements were under the command of

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Colonel Nicholls, H. M.'s 14th Foot, at that time Quarter Master General and subsequently, as Sir Jasper Nicholls, Commander-in-Chief in India; and curiously enough afterwards to become, according to the regimental records, Colonel of the Ninety-third Regiment.

But the surrender of their stronghold and the retirement of the Gurkhas within their own boundaries of Nipal, together with the eventual cession of the Province of Kumaon to the British, need hardly be proceeded with here. Enough has been already written to justify the title of this article, so leaving the British force, under an officer who was eventually to be the Regiment's Colonel, to effect the reduction of the hill fortress and bring the campaign to a successful conclusion, the link which Ranikhet forms in the chain of this consummation may be considered as complete. W. S.

—:o:—

What the Parrot is saying.

—o—

[As the bird only says what it hears, some curious information, as to what the troops think, may be elicited from it.]

THAT Spring Drill is infectious apparently.

That a certain individual was seen sugaring his tea by numbers.

That there wis some gran' pulls in the tug-o'-war.

That delays are dangerous.

That that shade Eis an awfu' lot tae answer for.

That the result wis a gran' advertisement for the hills.

That "H" really deserved their win.

That it wis a case o' little an' guid.

That the song of the nightingale has been heard in the land.

That for a few days previous tae the pheesical drill it thouch it wis doon the watter.

That thae German Bands did it.

That there wis great excitement on the 26th.

That a buddy went clean daft like.

That the "Licht troop," 'all begin tae fancy they can dae the pheesical drill.

That there's some difference o' opinion tho'.

That it didna notice any shamrocks bein' worn on the 17th.

That dancin' is becomin' maist popular again.

That each wing seems tae be on it own.

That there is "Sans Peur" an' "Thistle" respectively.

That the gran' march at the Corporals first dance wis a maist imposin' sicht.

That it's no every buddy gets the orderly officers dandy tae ride in.

That the "Pinnacle" is vera clannish.

That water's a scarce commodity.

That the new messin' is no a success in a certain company.

That it's no heard 'a single fitba' match up here yet.

That "nichts in bed" did weel enouch.

Inter-Company Tug-of-War.

—o—

The possession of Major McKerrell's Shield was contested on the 21st March and again the advantage of having summered on the hills was apparent. The result was quite an open question until the last however. The first ties were decided on Monday, the 19th. The only noteworthy struggle on this day was between "A" and "B" Companies, and it was the last of the four ties of the first round. "B's" team got the best of the toss, and getting somewhat the better ground made good use of it. After about four minutes on the rope they had five of "A's" team over the line and their supporters were in ecstasies. The pleasure was but short-lived, however; after getting so much advantage one or two of the team fell away in a most unaccountable manner, and losing all they had gained "B" were eventually pulled over in seven minutes, fifteen seconds. The pull was a splendid one, and the majority of the winning team were greatly exhausted after the strenuous efforts they had made in securing the victory.

Of the other pulls of the first round that between "E" and "C" was probably the best, and certainly most amusing. No one took a great amount of interest in the team themselves, all attention was centered in the antics of the "E" Company's trainer, who certainly appeared a most important factor in the result.

In the second round decided on the 20th there was not a great amount of excitement centered. Both pulls were foregone conclusions, and the results did not belie previously expressed opinions. The final was an entirely different matter, however. Both teams had their backers, and had given good accounts of themselves. "H's" better condition was thought to be compensated for by "A's" superior weight. In the end training told as it always does. The pull was a splendid one, and enthusiasm during the whole time was at its height. For four minutes almost there was not a move on either side. Both teams pulled their best and the rope except for an almost imperceptible vibration seemed stationary. Very gradually "H" were getting the advantage, but they turned first, and seemed for a moment just out of hand. "A" were not able to take advantage of their opponent's apparent disorder, however, and "H" still little by little increased their advantage; but every foot of the ground was fought for most stubbornly. The end did not come until after a pull of eight and three quarter minutes, and then "H" had won. It was certainly a struggle worthy of the cham-

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pions of the right and left half battalions. But it is somewhat a doubtful question whether victory would have favoured the present winners had it not been for the severe strain suffered by the losing team two evenings before. There is no disputing the fact, however, that "H" Company thoroughly deserved their win, they had trained in almost every case systematically and well, and although a light team scaling less than one hundred and twenty stone had managed in a practice pull a few evenings previous to the tournament to pull over a team turning the scale at one hundred and forty-three stone—a fact not lost sight of by the many supporters in the final struggle.

The following were the results of each round:—

FIRST ROUND.

"G"	pulled	"F"	in	3 minutes	45 seconds.
"H"	"	"D"	"	1 "	15 "
"E"	"	"C"	"	2 "	30 "
"A"	"	"B"	"	7 "	15 "

SECOND ROUND.

"H"	pulled	"G"	in	2 minutes	
"A"	"	"E"	"	3 "	50 seconds.

FINAL.

"H"	pulled	"A"	in	8 minutes	45 seconds.

The names and weights of winning teams are as follows:—

Pte. Duncan	11	stone 6	lbs.
" Gillon	11	" 4	"
" Laurie	12	" 8	"
Lce-Corpl. Munro	11	" 10	"
Pte. Scott (5029)	12	" 8	"
" Hawthorne	11	" 10	"
" Wright	12	" 0	"
" Cattenach	11	" 12	"
" McLennon	11	" 2	"
" Burns	13	" 0	"
Total	118	8	

:o:

The Physical Drill Competition.

—o—

To write of the recent Physical Drill Competition is not an easy matter, and a slight digression in favour of the trophy competed for may not be uninstructive.

The Physical Drill Shield is not an ancient institution.

Presented by Captain H. P. Moulton-Barrett, when he was Adjutant of the battalion, it was first competed for in Mian Mir in 1894. That year it was most appropriately won by "F" Company, (Captain Moulton-Barrett had always belonged to "F"), whilst the following year it still remained with them. Then in Nowshera it went to "H" the first year, and to the sister company "D" the second. In 1898 its possession was not contested. Last year there was hardly the usual preparation and "C" Company were successful.

This year notification of the competition's early advent was given some time beforehand, and most teams had taken advantage of the warning. The competition took place on the morning of Monday, 26th, there being no other parade. The Band and four of the teams, "A," "B," "C," and "G," were on the ground with piled arms some time before every thing was ready, but just after 9 o'clock "G" Company commenced, and from that time until noon the hill-locked arena echoed with the somewhat monotonous repetition of those well known airs—"Comin' thro' the Rye," "Over the Sea to Skye," "Bonnie Dundee," "Wanderin' Willie," and the others. How the musicians must have enjoyed that three hours parade! It is impossible to know who to sympathise with most, the band or the "Judge." Major St. George Burton, of the Black Watch, was cajoled into officiating in this capacity, and he was certainly allowed sufficient leisure to repent of his rashness before the last team had finished.

The majority of the battalion not actively participating sprinkled themselves somewhere about the overlooking khud side, and watched with becoming interest the performance of their representatives. The average amount of enthusiasm was displayed, a sufficient guarantee that absolute silence did not prevail. With hardly an exception there was an average excellence about the teams that must have made it no easy matter to decide the winner. At the end of the performance, really before the last company had quite completed, the final decision had been made, however, and the bugler on duty sounded "C" Company's call as the signal of victory; and so the trophy returned to the "Pinnacle." "F" were decidedly a good second (really there seemed to an ordinary spectator nothing to choose between them and the winners), and to "H" was given the third place. But for an unfortunate and almost unaccountable mistake on the part of their instructor, "B" would no doubt have been the winners; they had been capitally trained, and their precision was very noticeable. Kismat was however once more against them. The names of the winning team are as follows:—

Lce.-Copl. McNair, Privates Adams, Anderson, Brodie Brown, Craigh, Conway, Duncanson, Dunn, Dott, Foreman, Forrester, French, Geddes, Gibson, Hoy, Jack, Laird, Leitch, McKay, Soutar, James Smith, J. White, Wright.
Squad Commander, Sergeant F. Beavis.

SENTRY.—She will take charge o' the Magazine an' no' allow it tae run awa.

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Sports.

—o—

BILLIARDS.

A Billiard Match of 250 points up, took place between Privates Smith and Hiddles, both of 'D' Company, for the sum of Rs. 60, on Thursday, March 22nd.

Starting punctually at 10 A.M. Hiddles broke off and succeeded in leaving his own ball in balk. Smith playing next totalled six. Then for a time both players appeared to be nervous and could scarcely add any more to their score. Hiddles was the first to recover himself, and gradually forged ahead; on reaching his first century he held a lead of more than 20 points. The 'Pot' now pulled himself together and slowly drew near Hiddles, passing him in a neat break of 16 when Hiddles stood at 105. There was no holding Smith back now, he widened the gap and on reaching his second century had a comfortable lead of 50 points. Hiddles unaccountably fell away and his playing was nothing like the exhibitions he gave in Chaubattia or Bareilly. Smith reached the 250 mark with a lead of 59 points. Final scores Smith 250, Hiddles 191.

The best breaks were: Smith—19, 16, 16, 14; Hiddles—16, 14, 14, 13.

Match played in the Billiard Room at Ranikhet on the 30th between Privates Donaldson and Gilmour, "G" Company. Game 150 up for Rs. 10. Gilmour was victorious by 58 points.

Scores.—Private Gilmour—150; Private Donaldson—92.

Private McMillan called and marked the game.

:o:

Temperance Topics.

—o—

THE A. T. A.

One of Ranikhet advantages is the excellence of its Institutes. Probably not the least patronised of these is the Temperance Room which at the present is the most comfortable refuge teetotalers have had for a long time, and a Billiard Room is also all their own. At the last census they numbered a membership of 524, and there seems to be no reason why such favourable conditions should not effect even an increase and the prospect of the "Beattie Shield" which is presented annually to the battalion having had the most teetotalers in its ranks during the preceding twelve months.

I. O. R. "EXCELSIOR" TENT, No. 1900.

The members of "Excelsior," No. 190, have been busy since arriving in Ranikhet looking for a suitable room in which to hold their meetings. This by kind permission of the Commanding Officer has been found in the Fencing Room of the Gymnasium, should it not be required for any other purpose. The room is about the most convenient in the station. Ten new members have been initiated during last few weeks, and bright prospects seem opened out for Tent "Excelsior." This is the first time they have had the members altogether, since the institution of the Tent on the 16th February 1894 at Meean Meer, since when the Rechabites have been working hard to advance the cause of temperance in the battalion, together with its many kindred virtues. Now they have a membership of 97, not a bad percentage for a Society which is not only a temperance but a friendly one.

DEATH.

DALRYMPLE.—At Ranibagh, on the 21st February 1900, No. 5616 Private D. Dalrymple, "D" Company.

Ninety-third Calendar for May 1900.

—o—

1	Tu.	Left Table Bay for England, 1814. Est. reduced to 33 officers, 59 Sergeants, 23 Drummers and Pipers, 40 Corporals and 480 Privates, 1872.
2	W.	Lieut.-Col. Alexander Halkett to 104th Foot 1810.
3	Th.	George Johnston, Lieut.-Col. 1810. Emb. at Balaclava on board *Sphynx* and *Nemours* for expedition to Kertch and Yenikale (cancelled), 1855.
4	F.	
5	S.	Battle of Bareilly, 1858. 1 man killed.
6	S.	"Big Sam" (Sergeant Samuel McDonald) d. 1802; he was 6 ft. 10 in. in height, and measured 48 round chest; buried in the Strangers Cemetery, Guernsey. Arrd. Spithead from West Indies, 1834 (strength 371 N.-C. O.'s and men). Gallipoli to Scutari, 1854. Terrific hailstorm at Nowshera, 1897; hailstones 4½ in. in circumference.
7	M.	Cherat summer detachment left Nowshera. 1896.
8	Tu.	Disembarked Ramsgate, from West Indies 1834, to Canterbury.
9	W.	
10	Th.	Final Cricket Clock Tournament, Nowshera, 1897 (1st day).
11	F.	Final Cricket Clock Tournament, 1897, "B" Company winners.
12	S.	Edinburgh to Portsmouth on board *Himalaya*, 1873.
13	S.	"B" and "H" Companies (summer detachment) to Cherat, 1897.
14	M.	Arrd. Portsmouth from Granton, 1873; to Aldershot. Arrived Spithead from America, 1815; ordered to Cork.
15	Tu.	Arrived Aldershot, 1873.
16	W.	Re-inforced at Canterbury by Depôt Companies, 1834. Punkahs commenced Nowshera, 1896.
17	Th.	Dublin for Curragh, 1877.
18	F.	Weedon for N. of England by detachments, 1835; Head-quarters, Blackburn.
19	S.	Weedon for N. of England 1835.
20	S.	
21	M.	
22	Tu.	Est. augmented to 800 rank and file, 1843. Again embark (ships *Sphynx* and *Stromboli*) for expedition to Gulf of Kertch, 1855. New Colours presented at Dover by H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge 1857.
23	W.	
24	Th.	QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY. Her Majesty ALEXANDRINA VICTORIA, by Grace of God, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, b. 1819.
25	F.	
26	S.	
27	S.	Weedon to N. of England, 1835.
28	M.	Disembarked Cork 1815, to Birr; re-inforced, following in December, by draft from reduced 2nd battalion.
29	Tu.	
30	W.	Maj.-Gen. Sir John Cameron, K. C. B., Colonel to 9th Foot, 1833.
31	Th.	Lt.-Gen. Sir Jasper Nicolls, K.C.B., Colonel 1833.

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REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

PROMOTIONS.

To be Color-Sergeant on completion of three years as Orderly Room-Sergeant.—No. 2760, Sergeant J. Gunn, "C" Company, dated 27th December 1899.

To be Corporal.—No. 2810, Lance-Corporal W. Willcocks, "A" Company, dated 23rd March 1900.

PAY OF RANK AND ESTABLISHMENT.

To be Paid Lance-Corporals—

No. 5838, Lce.-Corpl. C. Fraser, "E" Coy., dated 13th Febry.
,, 6302, ,, J. Sutherland, "H" ,, ,, 5th March.
,, 5678, ,, T. Scott, "D" ,, ,, 9th ,,
,, 4619, ,, W. Mackinnon, "G" ,, ,, ,, ,,
,, 2425, ,, A. McInnes, "B" ,, ,, 23rd ,,

APPOINTMENTS.

To be Lance-Corporals—
No. 5548, Private J. MacDonald, "C" Company.
,, 5562, ,, J. MacNair, "C" ,,
,, 5994, ,, A. Rice, "G" ,,
,, 5408, ,, A. Ewing, "E" ,,
,, 2922, ,, J. Bertram, "F" ,,

To be Drummer—
No. 6083, Private W. Miller, "D" Company.

To be Pioneer—
No. 6089, Private D. Deans, "D" Company.

To be Bandsman—
No. 3965, Private W. Hewlett, "C" Company.

To be Acting Drummer—
No. 5524, Private G. Edwards, "F" Company.

To act as Commissariat Sergeant—
No. 3557, Corporal F. Hiscock, "A" Company.

To be School Assistants—
No. 5853, Private J. Brown, "G" Company.
,, 5048, ,, T. Hamill, "A" Company.

To be Station Butcher—
No. 4665, Private J. Crawford, "H" Company.

To fire Time Gun—
No. 6133, Private J. Roberts, "G" Company.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.

Granted 3d. per diem—
"D" Company.
No. 4314, Drummer W. Hughes.
"E" Company.
No. 2809, Private T. Lyons.

Granted 2d. per diem—
"A" Company.
No. 5022, Pte. J. McLachlan. | No. 5031, Pte. R. McKay.
"C" Company.
No. 5033, Pte. K. McGregor. | No. 5044, Pte. J. McMahon.
"D" Company.
No. 4971, Private P. Morrison.
"E" Company.
No. 5003, Private W. Hall.
"F" Company.
,, 4681, Private J. Fraser.
"G" Company.
,, 4987, Private J. Gilmour.
"H" Company.
,, 5029, Private A. Scott.

Granted 1d. per diem—
"C" Company.
No. 6449, Private G. Yeo.
"G" Company.
No. 4573, Pte. G. Murphy. | No. 6068, Pte. A. Smith.
"H" Company.
No. 5607, Pte. W. Pollock. | No. 6029, Pte. J. McIntyre.

Restored 1d. per diem—
"D" Company.
No. 3615, Private J. Nisbet.

COMPANY TRANSFERS.

No. 2810, Corporal W. Willcocks, "A" to "D" Company.
,, 3965, Private G. Hewlett, "C" to "A" ,,
,, 6089, ,, D. Deans, "D" to "E" ,,

RE-ENGAGEMENTS AND EXTENSIONS.

To complete twenty-one years' service—
No. 2810, Corporal W. Willcocks, "D" Company.

To complete twelve years service with the colours—
No. 6083, Drummer, W. Miller, "D" Company.
,, 4000, Private E. McConnell, "A" Company.

PLACED ON SUPERNUMERARY LIST.

On completion of three months' Extra Regimental Employment on Commissariat Department—
No. 5501, Corporal J. Houston, "D" Company.

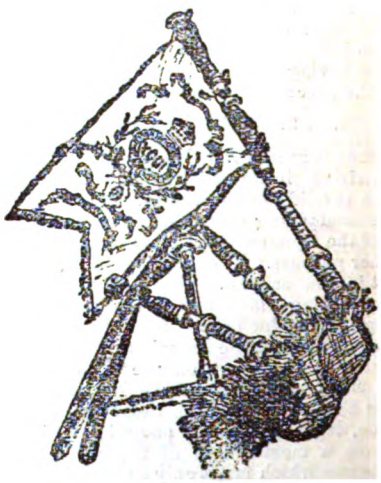
MUSKETRY PRIZE STATEMENT.

Battalion Shot—(Rank and File).

	£.	s.	d.
No. 5357, Lance-Corporal J. Stewart ..	0	16	9½

RESTORATION OF SERVICE.

In accordance with para. 1842, Queen's Regulations, the service forfeited by—
No. 3713, Private J. Campbell, "F" Company.



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